The pride of North Carolina's electric cooperatives

Caro

Moo
and Th
in the

6 ways

3 Colors On One Fragrant Shrub!

With this sensational shrub it's hard to tell which is more beautiful—the sweetly scented flowers of pink, white and lavender—or the clouds of colorful butterflies that will flock to them! Rest assured, this stunning decorative wonder will turn heads and draw compliments all summer long!

Butterflies Love It And So Will You –

Your Butterfly Bush will burst into bloom the very first summer after planting, blooming profusely from June to September. This carefree sun lover grows up to 8' in a season, reaching 10-12' tall with a 12' spread. The bright blooms will return every year, but not this low price, so order now! 3 1/2' pot.

OUR LIFETIME GUARANTEE ▶ If you're not happy with any item you order from us, simply return it within 30 days for a full refund or replacement, your choice. Any items that fail to grow and flourish to your complete satisfaction will be replaced FREE for as long as you garden. *No time limit. No questions asked.*

HIGAN BULB COMPANY S00 BE 6213 J 8
F NW • GRAND RAPIDS • MI 49550

BUTTERFLY BUSH as indicated below for spring planting.
red by your **LIFETIME GUARANTEE.**

* ☐ **2 plants for $6.98*** *Save $1.00*
Plus $2.90 postage and handling.

$.

TOTAL AMOUNT

*MI res. add 6% sales tax.
*TN res. add 8.25% sales tax.
*MO res. add 4.225% sales tax.

Exp. Date

OVUS

pink, white and blue
son long. No neigh-
ing tri-color combina-
ble for the first time

thrives in all
Heritage.
10 to 12
g plan. Order
each. Or,

item you order from us,
nt, your choice. Any items
will be replaced FREE for

S99 BP 6213 J 8

ated below for fall planting.
GUARANTEE.

BUY TWO GET ONE FREE!

or $11.97*
$3.90 postage and handling.
LUS 1 FREE!

$.

ZIP

TOTAL AMOUNT

*MI res. add 6% sales tax.
*TN res add 8.25% sales tax.
*MO res add 4.225% sales tax.

Exp. Date

press ☐ Discover/NOVUS

Volume 32, No. 4, April 2000

Contents

On the Cover

Lawmen who seized an illegal moonshine operation while it was in transit in Granville County in the mid-1960s. This newspaper photograph shows Granville County chief ABC officer Arthur Currin (top right), whose experiences with moonshiners are featured beginning on page 17.

April

Features

You won't believe this! 13
The funniest stories you ever heard, including a new version of "Why does the chicken cross the road?," plus a real reason for yelling "Down in front!" in a movie theater, and an answer to the question: "How many Swedish embassies are in Charlotte?"

The law is coming from that-a-way 17
Moonshiners and the law in Granville County. In this look back at the 1960s and 1970s, Cynthia Currin shares her 1976 interviews with her dad, who was the chief ABC officer for Granville County, and his favorite moonshiner.

How we survived Floyd's floodwaters 23
One family's story about keeping hope alive after they lost everything during Hurricane Floyd's flood last September. *[Not in all editions]*

Departments

FIRST PERSON 5
Do you know what snake gourds are? . . . New uses for Murphy's oil soap . . . Defending real Christmas trees . . . How to appreciate an electric cooperative.

MORE POWER TO YOU 10
Look who's dropping the green flag for the Talladega Touchstone Energy 300 . . . Recognition for Roanoke Electric and Pitt & Greene EMC . . . Will Congress consider an electricity competition bill this year?

CAROLINA CLOSE-UP 28
Find out your breast cancer risk. Also: special events this spring.

GO ELECTRIC 30
A buyer's guide to new cooking appliances.

MARKETPLACE 31-37
A showcase of goods and services.

JOYNER'S CORNER 35
Can you find the value of Bethel?

CAROLINA COMPASS 38
April events statewide

ENERGY CENTS 42
Choosing screen-storm door combinations.

HANK'S GARDENING GUIDE . . .44
Feeding trees and other April aids.

CLASSIFIED ADS 45

CAROLINA KITCHEN 46
Pleasing potato pizza.

SWIMMING POOL!

PRICE BREAK!

BUY EARLY and
SAVE $1,500 on The Delrando!

The Delrando

PRICES SLASHED!

THE MARINER
Brand New 15' x 24'
Family Size Pool
O.D. 19' x 31'

NOW ONLY $888*

*Shipping & Handling Extra

VISIT US AT www.tropical-pools.com
OR E-Mail us at pools@esn.net

100% FINANCING!
Installation optional
& Extra

HOME OWNERS ONLY-CALL TOLL FREE 24 HRS.- FREE HOME SURVEY
Limited Area
1(800)-761-1064 ext.1

Tropical Pools

Retreat From The World In The Comfort Of A Southland Log Home.

Imagine a house that's as comfortable as a cozy warm quilt in the wintertime. A house that's always peaceful and simple. That's what living in a Southland Log Home is like.

For 20 years, Southland Log Homes has been making folks feel right at home. Because log for log, you just get more value with Southland.

Call toll-free (888) 883-8884 or write for your 56-page *Southland Log Homes Planning Guide* today. It's just $7.50 but we think it's priceless.

Visit our model homes:
- Columbia, SC, I-26 Exit 101
- Greenville, SC, I-85 Exit 39
- Greensboro, NC, I-40/85 Exit 135
- Roanoke, VA, 8620 Roanoke Rd.
- Covington, GA, I-20 Exit 43/44
- Or A Dealer Near You.

Southland Log Homes

To order your Southland Log Homes Planning Guide, just call toll-free 1-888-883-8884, or send $7.50 with this coupon and your name, return address and phone to:

Southland Log Homes
Mill and National Sales Office
7521 Broad River Rd.
P.O. Box 1668
Irmo, SC 29063-1668

Visa/MC Welcome.

© 1999 Southland Log Homes.
EMC-99-2

Carolina country

Read monthly in more than 440,000 homes

Published by North Corolino Association Electric Cooperatives, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy® Partner

(800) 662-8835
corolino.country@ncemcs.com
www.corolinocountry.com

Editor
Michael E.C. Gery, *ext. 3062*

Associate Editor
Kim Whorton Tripp, CREC, *ext. 3134*

Assistant Editor
Renee C. Gannon, *ext. 3209*

Art Director
Leisha L. Hodgson, *ext. 3090*

Graphic Design Intern
Brigitte Ting, *ext. 3110*

Business Coordinotor
Jenny Lloyd, *ext. 3091*

Advertising Manoger
Jennifer Boedart Hoey, *ext. 3077*

Executive Vice President & CEO
Chuck Terrill

Senior Vice President, Corporate Relotions
Carolyn Herr Watts

North Carolina's electric cooperatives provide reliable, safe and affordable electric service to 750,000 homes, farms and businesses in North Carolina. The 27 electric cooperatives are each member-owned, not-for-profit and overseen by a board of directors elected by the membership.

Member, Audit Bureau of Circulotions

Periodicols postoge poid ot Raleigh, N.C., ond oddi-tionol moiling offices. Editoriol offices: 3400 Sumner Blvd., Roleigh, N.C. 27616. Corolino Country is o registered trodemork of the North Corolina Associotion of Electric Cooperotives, Inc. (ISSN 0008-6746) (USPS 832800)

Postmoster: Send form 3579 to P.O. Box 27306, Roleigh, N.C. 27611.

Individual subscriptions, $8 per year. $20 outside U.S.A.

To chonge oddress, send mogozine moiling lobel to your electric cooperotive.

Printed on recycled paper

Advertising published in Carolina Country is accepted on the premise that the merchandise and services offered are accurately described and willingly sold to customers at the advertised price. The magazine, North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives, Inc., and the member cooperatives do not necessarily endorse the products or services advertised. Advertising that does not conform to these standards or that is deceptive or misleading is never knowingly accepted. Should you encounter advertising that does not comply with these standards, please inform Carolina Country at P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, NC 27611. (919) 875-3062.

Carolina Country is available on cassette tape as a courtesy of volunteer services at the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources, Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Raleigh, N.C. (800) 662-7726.

Has your address changed?

Carolina Country magazine is available monthly to members of North Carolina's electric cooperatives. If you are a member of one of these cooperatives but do not receive Carolina Country, you may request a subscription by calling Member Services at the office of your cooperative. If your address has changed, please inform your cooperative.

first person

From our readers

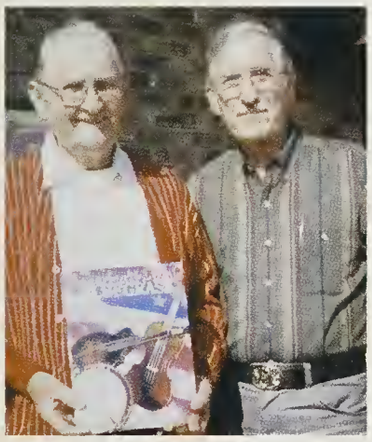
How to Reach Us

Mail:	P.O. Box 27306 Raleigh, NC 27611-7306
Phone:	(800) 662-8835, ext. 3062
Fax:	(919) 878-3970
E-mail:	carolina.country@ncemcs.com
Web site:	www.carolinacountry.com

Those crazy bluegrass music fans

If anyone should ever question the effective coverage of your magazine permission is herewith granted to use my experience as Exhibit A for the defense.

As soon as the January issue of Carolina Country reached your subscribers my telephone began to ring and letters started arriving at my mailbox. The responses reached across the state and even into Maryland. (Hey, watch where you string those lines!) One N.C. state official wrote and then later called to express his gratitude for "...an article about the time when radio was truly radio." ["We picked and sang our way," by Al Wall. See www.carolinacountry.com]



Pappy Sherrill (left) and Al Wall perform April 22 in South Carolina.

Every letter contained a tender story line. One man wrote about stringing a 100-foot antenna at his east Tennessee home in order to receive the WWNC Farm Hour more clearly. Another expressed his astonishment at how many "names" had played the Farm Hour. Most correspondents mentioned their having listened to Pappy Sherrill on WPTF Raleigh back in the 1930's and two said they learned the fiddle trade from Pappy.

And, Charlotte (Lowe's) Motor Speedway president Humpy Wheeler sent me an inscribed $1,000,000 bill, marked "Great Story." Now, if I can just find someone who can change it into smaller bills!

Come on down to Cypress Gardens, S.C. where Pappy and I, along with a stellar cast of performers, will be playing Saturday, April 22.

Al Wall
Charleston, S.C.

Looking for ground covers

I was reading Hank's Gardening Guide in the February 2000 issue where he writes about ground covers. I am looking to find more. I have a steep bank behind my house that is about a half-acre. We planted hydroseeded crownvetch, but none came up. I am interested in resources to purchase seed, or information on what to plant.

Amy F. Greene
3246 US Hwy. 221
Sparta, NC 28675

Real vs. fake Christmas trees

I find it necessary to respond to Sara Schwager who sent a letter to you about "killing" Christmas trees ["First Person," February 2000].

We grow Christmas trees as a crop to be harvested. In the 7 to 15 years they are growing, they manufacture oxygen and prevent erosion. They provide a natural habitat for birds, deer, turkeys and other forms of wildlife. For each tree we cut, we replant at least one.

The trees depicted in Mrs. Depree's painting that you published on your cover in December are Fraser Fir, the number one choice for their aroma, needle retention and strong branches. They only grow in high elevations, and therefore a live tree in low elevations will die.

A cut Christmas tree is a renewable, recyclable product. A fake tree is manufactured from a non-renewable (petroleum) product and pollutes our landfills if buried, and pollutes the air if burned.

Your cover inspired me to purchase several of Mrs. Depree's prints, one for my home and others for gifts.

I invite Sara to visit our farm in Ashe County. I'm positive she will find us environmentally sound.

Sam Shumate
Warrensville
Blue Ridge Electric

Home Remedies

Shines silver and kills roaches, too

Murphy's oil soap is also good as a roach killer. Put some on a cloth, or in a spray bottle, and apply it to cracks in corners or wherever they come from. I've also found that it's good at cleaning dishes, jewelry and silverware.

Victoria Dickerson
Murfreesboro

first person

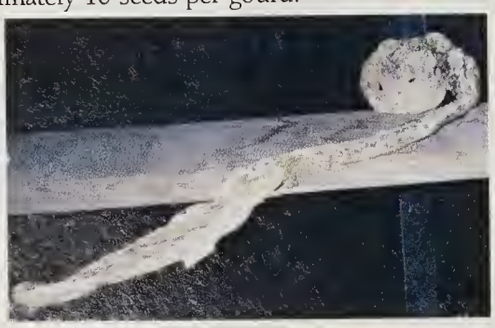
Ever seen snake gourds?

These are snake gourds. They were given to us by a friend from Thailand. We would like to share these snake gourds with the area. Many of our friends come by just to see them growing.

The picture above shows the gourd growing up to seven feet. You can eat them when they are young, usually by stir-frying them.

The other shows a snake gourd drying out. It looks like a snake's skin.

Only three seeds came up. One died. People ask us for seed, but we don't have any yet. Maybe next year. They have approximately 10 seeds per gourd.



I look forward to receiving Carolina Country very much. The garden section helps keep me informed in all seasons.

We are retired and enjoy camping, fishing, our yard and a huge bottle collection.

Leo and Martha Alford
1761 Moores Pond Rd.
Youngsville, NC 27996

Mrs. Della Brooks at 100

On March 21, 2000, my mother, Della Brooks, turned 100 years old. Her mind and her body are showing the effect of her many years of living, but she's still beautiful.

Age has brought numbness to her hands and her legs. She uses a walker to get around. Her short-term memory leaves a lot to be desired. On the other hand, she is alert, interested in what's going on, eats and sleeps well and enjoys people. She is never hateful, judgmental, unkind, unclean or tiresome to be around.

She bore all of her children at home attended by the family doctor. She never knew the joy of disposable diapers. She had no electricity in her home until most of the children were grown. In the early years, she washed clothes in the creek at the bottom of the hill.

Mama never went on a vacation or took a tour. She never had a driver's license. She never said the words "I love you" to me. And in my life I have never doubted that Mama loved me. I have never questioned her love.

When I was a child, security was a thing I took for granted. Mama and Daddy loved me and they loved each other. Their job was to make a home and care for us children. Never did I doubt that they would.

Mama has outlived all the members of our family who were of her generation. Sisters, brothers, aunts, uncles and cousins. All gone. But Mama is still here.

She lives with me. Yesterday I heard her talking to a friend on the telephone. "I've had a good life," she told her friend. "I try every day to be thankful for the wonderful life I have lived and the health I've always had. I wish everybody in the world was as well off as I am and had a life as good as I do."

She loves to get cards and letters. We live in the country and the mailman's arrival is the highlight of her day. She lays cards and letters on her table and reads them over and over.

If you would like to send Mama a card, I'd appreciate it very much, and so would she. The address is:

Della Brooks
3060 Mountain View Road
Glade Valley, NC 28627

Ellen Brooks
Glade Valley

Letters to Rep. Richard Burr

Thanks to those of you who responded to the commentary by Rep. Richard Burr ["The time for the federal government to get out of the way is now," More Power to You, February 2000]. We have forwarded the comments to the Congressman. He can be reached at 1513 Longworth House Office Bldg., Washginton, DC 20515. Or by phone at (202) 225-2071 and e-mail: richard.burrNC05@mail.house.gov.

Reading to Mr. Earnhardt

Today I am reading my first issue of Carolina Country [February 2000]. I would like to order back issues if any are available. My husband's eyesight is failing, so I read to him. At age 80 and 81, and housebound, we need reading material such as your great magazine.

Arlene P. Earnhardt
200 Luther Rd., Apt. 102
Jefferson, NC 28640

Satellite TV and deregulation

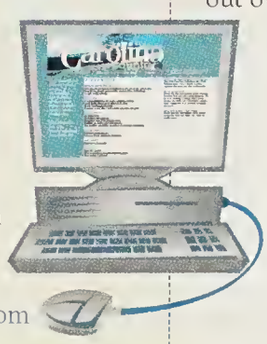
After reading your very straightforward information concerning local-into-local satellite TV service in the November issue, my husband expressed our concerns to Senator John Edward's office. My husband's basic message was "we rural citizens are unable to receive local TV stations due to distance from stations or terrain barriers, and we are hostage to cable systems, which started as permitted public utilities and which have been de-regulated to greedy money-grabbers."

We accepted at face value then (and still do) your statement that the technology to permit local-into-local service via satellite delivery systems is available now. (We know only enough about such things to be dangerous!)

We continue to be interested in this issue. We have observed that for deregulation to be fair to all, there needs to be available alternatives.

Marjorie J. Wiggins
Wilkesboro
Blue Ridge EMC

Editor's note: Congress this spring is addressing the issue of local network programming for satellite TV viewers. As Carolina Country went to press, two very different bills were pending in House and Senate committees. The House Agriculture Committee approved a bill by a 41-0 vote that is "good for rural America," according to Bob Phillips, CEO of the National Rural Telecommunications Cooperative. Sen. Phil Gramm, however, offered a contrasting bill in his chamber, Phillips said, that would cost taxpayers $350 million and not deliver all the local programming that is possible. For an update, see the Web sites: www.tvaccessnow.com or www.nrtc.org.



The information that Ms. Wiggins refers to is now on our Web site. See "Why you can't see local stations on your satellite TV," in the "More Power to You" section of www.carolinacountry.com

How to appreciate Union Power Cooperative

We would like to thank the men and women of Union Electric Membership Corporation for the extreme, even heroic, effort they put forth to restore power to Union County during January's snow. Many areas faced devastation equal to that of Hurricane Hugo, bringing thousands of trees and limbs down across the county. We believe this situation to be worse than Hugo due to the extremely cold temperatures. However, power was restored to most of us in less than a week as compared to the two-week outage with Hugo. We would also like to thank the hundreds of men traveling from other co-ops across the state, and from as far away as Ohio, Kentucky and Virginia who came to our rescue. We hope you found the people of our county appreciative of your efforts and grateful that you cared enough to come.

With the growth of Union County, it is important for us to remain true to the code of behavior of the "southern way." It is difficult to believe some of the appalling stories which have come our way regarding the actions of some residents during this time of distress. From what we can tell, many apologies are in order. UEMC is not a huge conglomerate of faceless voices over the phone. It is an organization of our hometown people, members of our own communities, or personal friends. Their faces can be seen in our local church groups, our volunteer fire departments, and in our school PTO's. They are regular folks, with families to provide for, just like the rest of us. In spite of the fact many of them had no power in their own homes, they went to work to provide each of us with heat, running water and electricity. They went up in bucket trucks during the sleet and freezing rain to restore power lines while trees crashed down around them. At times they were forced to cut themselves out of mangled wooded areas. It can be said that we have heroes living among us.

Our electric cooperative is not a profit-oriented business. Each of us, as consumers, is a part owner. We can help Union EMC prepare for the next inevitable crisis Mother Nature throws our way be allowing them to cut back the trees on our property before they become a problem. We can be prepared, maintaining a reasonable stock of bottled water and auxiliary heat. We should consider purchasing our own generators, as well as learn how to operate them properly. We still are a basically rural society, and we each are ultimately responsible for out own well being.

We can show that we care by attending the Union EMC annual meeting, absorbing the information about the co-op, and casting our vote in good conscience.

Each time we run into one of these brave people who work for us in times of crisis, we should give them a hug or a strong pat on the back and say, "Thanks. You do a great job."

David and Maribeth Huggins
Fairview
Union Power Cooperative

Create Your Own Outdoor Room...In Just Seconds!

LOW Factory Direct Prices!

Introducing The Revolutionary SunSetter Retractable Awning!

If you're tired of having your outdoor enjoyment rained on...baked out...or just plain ruined by unpredictable weather.

At last there is a solution! One that lets you take control of the weather on your deck or patio! It's the incredible SunSetter Retractable Awning! A simple... easy-to-use...& *affordable* way to outsmart the weather and start enjoying your deck or patio more...*rain or shine!*

The SunSetter is like adding a whole extra *outdoor room* to your home... giving you instant protection from glaring sun...or sudden showers! Plus it's incredibly easy to use...opening & closing effortlessly in *less than 30 seconds!*

So, stop struggling with the weather... & start enjoying your deck or patio more!

Call for a FREE Catalog & Video!
1-800-876-8060 Ext. #6536

Opens & Closes In Less Than 30 Seconds!

Just pull on the handy strap & your SunSetter unrolls effortlessly!

You choose full sun, partial shade or total protection in just seconds!

FREE Catalog & Video
Call Toll-Free: 1-800-876-8060 Ext. 6536

❑ **Yes!** Please send your FREE Catalog & Video...including Special Savings now in effect...TODAY!

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip _____

SunSetter® 184 Charles Street, Dept. 6536 Malden, MA 02148

GREAT AMERICAN.
LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

AFFORDABLE LIFE INSURANCE

The Best Idea For ... Personal Insurance - Business Insurance - Mortgage Protection

Copyright 1/90 All Rights Reserved

NON-TOBACCO RATES

MONTHLY RATES

Issue Age	$50,000 Male	$50,000 Female	$101,000 Male	$101,000 Female	$250,000 Male	$250,000 Female	$500,000 Male	$500,000 Female
20			11.77	11.24	18.81	17.50	30.62	28.00
21			11.77	11.24	18.81	17.50	30.62	28.00
22			11.77	11.24	18.81	17.50	30.62	28.00
23			11.77	11.24	18.81	17.50	30.62	28.00
24			11.77	11.24	18.81	17.50	30.62	28.00
25			11.77	11.24	18.81	17.50	30.62	28.00
26			11.77	11.24	18.81	17.50	30.62	28.00
27			11.86	11.33	19.03	17.71	31.06	28.43
28			11.86	11.33	19.03	17.71	31.06	28.43
29			11.86	11.33	19.03	17.71	31.06	28.43
30			11.86	11.33	19.03	17.71	31.06	28.43
31			11.86	11.33	19.03	17.71	31.06	28.43
32			11.86	11.33	19.03	17.71	31.06	28.43
33			11.86	11.33	19.03	17.71	31.06	28.43
34			11.94	11.33	19.25	17.71	31.50	28.43
35			11.94	11.41	19.25	17.93	31.50	28.87
36			12.03	11.50	19.46	18.15	31.93	29.31
37			12.12	11.59	19.68	18.37	32.37	29.75
38			12.21	11.77	19.90	18.81	32.81	30.62
39			12.39	11.94	20.34	19.25	33.68	31.50
40			12.56	12.21	20.78	19.90	34.56	32.81
41			12.74	12.39	21.21	20.34	35.43	33.68
42			12.92	12.65	21.65	21.00	36.31	35.00
43			13.09	12.83	22.09	21.43	37.18	35.87
44			13.45	13.09	22.96	22.09	38.93	37.18
45			13.89	13.45	24.06	22.96	41.12	38.93

Call for more information

MONTHLY RATES

Issue Age	$50,000 Male	$50,000 Female	$101,000 Male	$101,000 Female	$250,000 Male	$250,000 Female	$500,000 Male	$500,000 Female
46			14.42	13.71	25.37	23.62	43.75	40.25
47			15.13	14.07	27.12	24.50	47.25	42.00
48			15.92	14.51	29.09	25.59	51.18	44.18
49			16.72	14.95	31.06	26.68	55.12	46.37
50			17.60	15.39	33.25	27.78	59.50	48.56
51			18.48	15.83	35.43	28.87	63.87	50.75
52			19.37	16.27	37.62	29.96	68.25	52.93
53			20.34	16.89	40.03	31.50	73.06	56.00
54			21.40	17.51	42.65	33.03	78.31	59.06
55			22.81	18.31	46.15	35.00	85.31	63.00
56			24.23	19.10	49.65	36.96	92.31	66.93
57			25.73	19.99	53.37	39.15	99.75	71.31
58			27.50	21.05	57.75	41.78	108.50	76.56
59			29.71	22.28	63.21	44.84	119.43	82.68
60			32.62	23.79	70.43	48.56	133.87	90.12
61			36.25	25.47	79.40	52.71	151.81	98.43
62			40.31	27.23	89.46	57.09	171.93	107.18
63			45.00	29.27	101.06	62.12	195.12	117.25
64			50.30	32.01	114.18	68.90	221.37	130.81
65			56.31	35.54	129.06	77.65	251.12	148.31

Call for more information

Additional ages and amounts with guaranteed rates *(of course)* available upon request.

Other amounts available upon request. Premiums are based on applicant's age at nearest birthday. Policies are non-cancellable as long as premiums are paid, however, if the insured commits suicide within two years of the Policy Date, the benefit is return of premium. Premiums may be paid annually, semi-annually or monthly bank draft. (A no-cost medical exam may be required depending on age, health or amount of coverage desired). Premiums $101,000 and above are annual term, preferred rates. Policy Form No. PXART99NW1. Level Death Benefit to age 95. Premiums increase annually. All policies are issued and subject to underwriting by Great American Life Insurance Company®, P.O. Box 5416, Cincinnati, OH 45201-5416.

POLICY NOT AVAILABLE IN ALL STATES.

CLIP AND MAIL TODAY FOR QUICK RESPONSE

For More Information Call:
1-800-565-4165

For Priority Service - FAX:
(708) 445-0420

Or clip and mail the Application Request Form in an envelope to:

Jim Olson
National Processing Center
P.O. Box 5288
River Forest, IL 60305

Great Tobacco Rates Also Available!

Application Request Form

The information you provide will be kept in strict confidence.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ ❑ MALE ❑ FEMALE

AMT. OF INS. DESIRED _____ ❑ TOBACCO ❑ NON-TOBACCO

HOME PHONE ( ) _____ WORK PHONE ( ) _____

BENEFICIARY _____ AGE _____

The best time to call me is:

❑ Morning ❑ Afternoon ❑ Evening (❑ Home ❑ Work)

I wish to pay my premiums: ❑ Annually ❑ Semi-Annually ❑ Monthly Bank Draft

ADDITIONAL APPLICATION REQUESTED FOR:

NAME _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ ❑ MALE ❑ FEMALE

AMT. OF INS. DESIRED _____ ❑ TOBACCO ❑ NON-TOBACCO

Comments: _____

I am also interested in: ❑ 10 year term ❑ 20 year term

OM2-B003-ART

MORE POWER TO YOU

Seen This Lately?

Fire ants mean trouble for underground transformers or enclosures because they like to build their nests inside the warm transformer. These nests can block the ventilation to the transformer and cause it to overheat.

Fire ant nests also work to deteriorate the rubber connections within the transformer. These annoying pests are a hindrance to linemen who may have to work on the transformer, especially at night.

If you see something like this in your area, call your electric cooperative and report the situation.

Touchstone Energy® sponsors Talladega race April 15

On April 15, the third annual Touchstone Energy® 300 will roar through the 2.66-mile Talladega Superspeedway, the largest and most competitive track in the world. More than 560 locally-based Touchstone Energy® cooperatives across the country have joined together to sponsor this NASCAR Busch Series stock car race. Last year's winner, Terry Labonte, two-time Winston Cup champion, will compete again for this year's Touchstone Energy® 300 title.

Renee Gannon photo

Randall Bell, maintenance supervisor for Edgecombe-Martin County EMC in Tarboro, is scheduled to drop the green flag to start this year's Touchstone Energy 300 NASCAR Busch Series race in Talladega, Ala., April 15.

"This exciting NASCAR event is a great way for us to raise public awareness of America's electric cooperatives," says G. Thomas Upshaw, member of the Touchstone Energy board of directors and CEO of Palmetto Electric Cooperative, a Touchstone Energy cooperative in Palmetto, S.C.

The Grand Marshals for the race are Upshaw and Mickey Miller, outgoing chairman of the Touchstone Energy board, while Randall Bell will commence the race as the Honorary Starter. Randall Bell is a maintenance supervisor for Edgecombe-Martin County EMC, a Touchstone Energy cooperative.

Tickets for this event can be purchased at the Talladega Superspeedway ticket office located in the International Motorsports Hall of Fame building at 3366 Speedway Blvd. or by calling the Ticket Office Hotline at 256-362-RACE (7223).

The race is scheduled to be televised live on ESPN2 at 3 p.m. on April 15, and broadcast live via radio on the 500-affiliate Motor Racing Network.

Touchstone Energy is an alliance of local, consumer-owned utilities around the country committed to providing high standards of service to customers, large and small. Launched nationally by electric cooperatives in 1998, Touchstone Energy is now America's largest network of energy providers, with more than 560 cooperatives in 38 states serving more than 16 million customers every day.

For more information visit: www.touchstoneenergy.com

Pitt & Greene co-op tests a new national safety accreditation program

Pitt & Greene EMC, headquartered in Farmville, was one of two electric cooperatives in the nation to test a revised version of the co-ops' national safety accreditation program.

More than 600 electric cooperatives in the U.S. strive every three years to have their workplace and consumer safety practices accredited by the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA). To become accredited, co-ops and their safety practices must go through a rigorous series of field observations, as well as to submit records including policies, procedures, reports, educational programs, maintenance logs and consumer information. The purpose is to demonstrate that a co-op adheres to strict safety standards for both employees and consumers.

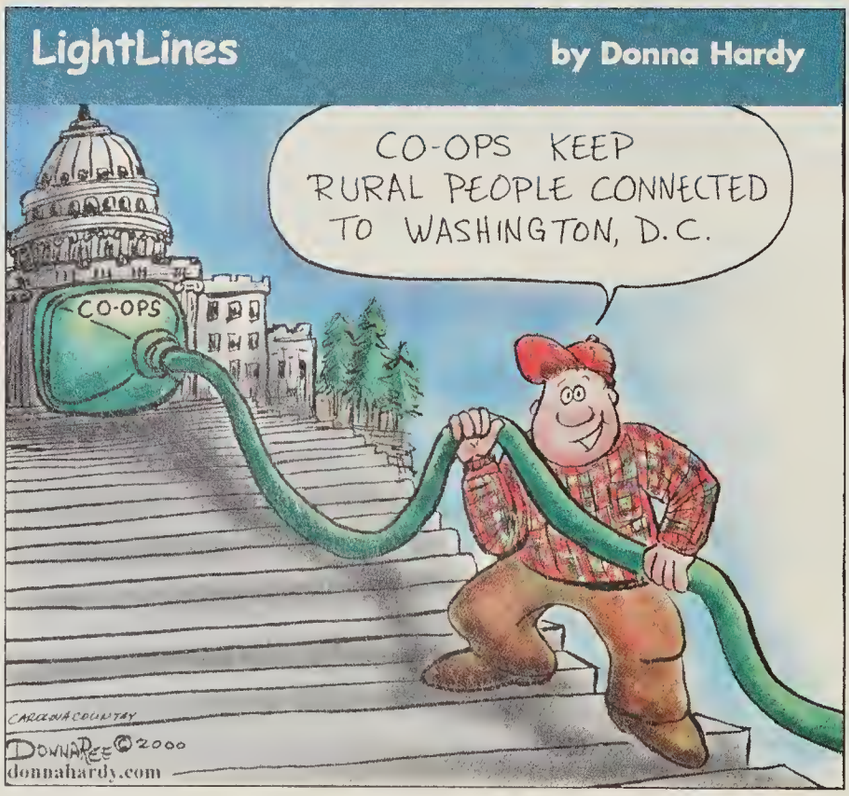
Accreditation not only recognizes that a co-op applies safety to all its work, but also can result in favorable insurance rates.

Pitt & Greene EMC, along with an Indiana co-op, tested a set of revisions in the safety accreditation process. The revisions reduce the time it takes to perform the accreditation process and streamlined the paperwork and field observation aspects.

Pitt & Greene received certification under the revised safety accreditation program in the spring of 1999. The co-op serves more than 8,200 consumers.

The chair of the NRECA safety accreditation revision committee was Tommy Greer, director of Job Training & Safety for the North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives. Greer said the total program now exceeds national standards, thanks to co-ops such as Pitt & Greene EMC who tested the process. The revised safety accreditation program is currently being implemented for electric co-ops nationwide.

The safety programs at North Carolina's co-ops have long been regarded as among the best in the nation.



Roanoke Electric receives national prize for visionary community involvement

Curtis Wynn is Roanoke Electric's CEO.

The National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) has given a prestigious national award to Roanoke Electric Cooperative in recognition of the co-op's leadership and vision in northeast North Carolina.

Roanoke Electric won NRECA's Community Service Network's (CSN) Overall Award. The "overall award" means that Roanoke Electric's community involvement showed the most innovation and outreach of all the projects submitted by co-ops nationwide for the four categories within the CSN awards.

Roanoke Electric Cooperative, based in Rich Square, has worked hard to improve the economic condition of its seven-county service area, which is currently one of the most economically distressed areas in North Carolina. Recognizing that the problems communities face are often interrelated, the cooperative led a project that resulted in the formation of a regional consortium, which produced a strategic plan for the area. Involved were more than 30 non-profit agencies, local government leaders and community-based organizations. The plan earned the region its designation as a "champion community" by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Roanoke Electric went a step further, working with the community to create the Roanoke Chowan Partners for Progress (RCPP). This organization, which is built from the grassroots level, works cooperatively to carry out the initiatives set forth in the strategic plan. Among several accomplishments already is the successful effort that led Fineline Industries to locate a major ski towboat manufacturing facility in the Northampton County town of Woodland. The work is continuing to build.

Curtis Wynn, executive vice president and CEO of Roanoke Electric Cooperative, was scheduled to receive the CSN award at the NRECA annual meeting in Orlando March 20-22.

Commenting on the community service work that earned the co-op the award, Wynn said, "This consortium was developed with the idea that economic self-sufficiency must be born from within. The entire community, including cooperative leaders, school superintendents, community, religious and youth leaders and college presidents, to name a few, must work toward the common good for the region, which is economic development. We've involved the community in the strategic planning process to allow the community to shape itself."

He added that involvement with RCPP also helps position Roanoke Electric favorably for a competitive electric service industry. "We are at the table with other grassroots organizations in helping to shape the future of our community," he said. "We hope this will build loyalty for our cooperative when the community sees that we are active members of the community and we care."

Roanoke Electric, a Touchstone Energy® cooperative, serves more than 14,000 members.

Federal lawmakers differ on the schedule for electric industry restructuring legislation

A leading Congressional proponent of federal legislation to restructure the electric service industry believes a bill could make it through Congress this year, but the Senate majority leader disagrees.

In February, Republican Rep. Joe Barton of Texas, who chairs the House Commerce Subcommittee on Energy and Power, said he believes restructuring legislation could be on the President's desk by the end of the year. "We can take what we did in subcommittee and massage it some." Barton told Reuters news service. "It would not be impossible to move out of the committee by spring and the House floor by summer. It is certainly doable."

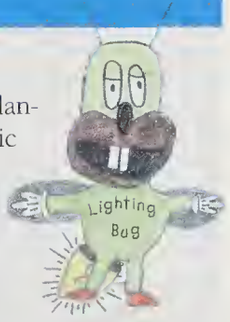
But at about the same time, Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, a Mississippi Republican, told the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, "I don't think the electricity deregulation legislation will reach the form we can get it through the whole process this year."

Barton's bill was passed over the objection of subcommittee Democrats. The support of full committee ranking member John Dingell, a Michigan Democrat, is needed for the bill to move out of committee. The specific measures of H.R. 2944 that the full committee will focus on include market power and mergers, state and federal jurisdiction and consumer protection.

Lott said it is something that should be given Congressional priority during the next two to three years. He noted, "when you look at the things we must do and you look at how much the work has been done in the committee, I just don't believe we are quite ready to move that one this year." He added that it took 10 years to pass telecommunications reform.

The Lighting Bug Says

Leave the meter to the pros



Not only is meter tampering illegal, it's dangerous as well. If you suspect that your electric meter is malfunctioning and try to open or adjust it, you could receive a shock that could result in serious injury or even death. Tampering with your electric meter is also a criminal offense, with penalties ranging from heavy fines to imprisonment. If you think your meter has a problem, call your electric cooperative for help. Don't risk being injured or charged with a crime.

Long-time Randolph EMC director Harold Terry dies

Randolph EMC lost one of its pioneers Jan. 25, with the death of T. Harold Terry. During his 45 years on the co-op's board of directors, he served as both vice president and president. Terry was the longest-serving director ever at Randolph EMC.

A resident of Siler City, Terry was retired from Clapp Brothers Implement and Tractor Company after 31 years. He was a charter member of the Silk Hope Ruritan Club, charter member of the Chatham County Camp of the Gideon's International and chairman of The Living Memorial Bible Plan.

Allen Holt, general manager of Randolph EMC in Asheboro, said that, "While he had a long tenure on the board, he had the ability to see the need for adapting to new ideas. He was a very forward-thinking director and always had the welfare of the members of Randolph EMC at heart."

Randolph EMC serves more than 27,000 members. Its main office is in Asheboro.

You can swing a new home with Jim Walter Homes!

If you've ever dreamed of building a new home for you and your family, then it's time to visit Jim Walter Homes. We believe in your dreams, and we make it affordable to build and finance your new home on your property. With our fixed-rate mortgage financing, no down payment to build, and manageable monthly payments, you'll discover building and owning a new Jim Walter home is easy to swing.

The Chadwick, just one of more than 30 home designs.

- $0 Down* • No Points
- No Closing Costs
- Built On Your Property
- Low, Fixed-Rate Mortgage Financing

Call 1-800-4WALTER ext 70

for a free brochure or log onto our web site: www.jimwalterhomes.com

Jim Walter HOMES

We believe in your dreams®

We're open 7 days a week. Mon.- Fri. 8 am - 7 pm, Sat. 8 am - 6 pm, Sun. 1 pm - 6 pm

Please send me your free brochure with more than 30 home designs and information about building on my property.

Name_____

Address_____

City/State/Zip_____

Telephone_____

Mail To: Jim Walter Homes, P.O. Box 31601, Tampa, FL 33631-3601 E 0400

No money down available to qualified property owners. Photo shows actual home that may include additions, options or customer modifications not part of our standard offering. Shrubs and landscaping have been added. State License Numbers: AL-523, AR-HB1003, FL-CRC052378, MS-R00356, NC-10840, SC-10156, TN-23042, VA-2701010439A, WV-008536. Georgia residential mortgage licensee. © Jim Walter Homes, Inc. 2000. Copyright strictly enforced.

The funniest stories you ever heard

We love a good story, don't we? Particularly a funny one where we look foolish, or even get slightly but not terribly hurt. Give us a story of lost dentures or of a misbehaving zipper and we'll laugh until our faces hurt and our eyes run with tears.

My dad has a story that he loves to tell. I like it for two reasons. One, because I like to think of myself as a cute kid, and two, it may be the only time that I ever got the better of my dad.

One fine spring day when I was about 4 years old, my mom and dad and I headed out for a drive. Mom and I wanted to stop at the old country grocery store, but Dad didn't. He took us there anyway and made us promise to hurry.

He waited outside with a drink and pack of peanuts. He waited some more. Now he's losing his patience. He spied me in the store goofing around, caught my attention and sternly called me toward him. I timidly approached. Dad remembers that we were nearly eye-to-eye, because I was in the doorway, about three steps up from where he stood waiting outside. Meanwhile, he noticed that the folks in the checkout line were really paying attention to all this. We lived in a small town and these folks were our friends and neighbors, so Dad knew he had their attention. He began to lecture me on being "inconsiderate." He also was pretty pleased that I keenly focused on every word he was saying, so this became a lengthy lecture. He finally finished with,

"What do you have to say, young lady?"

He says my eyes never lost their focus. Even the shoppers awaited my response. "Daddy," I said, "you've got something between your teeth, right there!"

Everyone realized that I had not heard a word of his best-ever child-rearing lecture. I was focused on the piece of peanut lodged in his teeth. Dad retreated to his car to get away from the howls of laughter. That, he says, was the last time he ever gave a public lecture on child rearing.

You're going to like these funny stories we're running this month. Many thanks to all who submitted stories. I wish we had space to run more. (Look for more on our Web site, www.carolinacountry.com). Next month, we'll run your accounts of "The Finest Place to Grow Up in North Carolina." (Deadline was March 15.) For other themes of 2000, see page 15.

— *Kim Whorton Tripp*

You won't believe this

Paying last respects, twice

My mom and dad learned that their uncle, who lived in Hyde County at Lake Landing, died. They decided to pay their respects by going to the home to view the body and visit with the family.

The visitation was at night, and it had been a while since they had visited their relatives, so they weren't exactly sure which house was their cousin's house. When they arrived in the neighborhood, they saw a house with many cars parked outside, so they assumed that was it. They knocked at the door, and because there was no answer they went on in. In the front room was the casket.

My parents discussed how different this man looked now compared to the man they remembered. They agreed that he must have been extremely sick before his death. They wandered into the next room where the other guests were sitting, and they realized that they recognized no one. Finally they saw a lady that they did know. My mom asked her about the severity of their uncle's illness. She explained to them that the corpse they had seen was not their uncle. They were at the wrong house. Their cousin's house was two doors down.

Lucretia R. Burbage
Belhaven
Tideland EMC member

How to bathe a cat

1. Thoroughly clean the toilet.
2. Add the required amount of shampoo to the toilet water, and lift both lids.
3. Soothe the cat while you carry him towards the bathroom.
4. In one smooth motion, put the cat in the toilet and close both lids. You may have to stand on the lids so he can't escape. *CAUTION: Do not get any part of your body too close to the toilet edge, as his paws will be reaching out for anything he can hook into.*
5. Flush the toilet three or four times. This procedure provides a power wash and rinse that I have found to be quite effective.
6. Have someone open the door to the outside and ensure that there are no people between the door and the toilet.
7. Stand as far behind the toilet as you can get and quickly lift both lids.
8. The cat will rocket out of the toi let, and run outside where he will dry himself off.

Sincerely,
The Dog

Joan Davis
Statesville
EnergyUnited member

Germs and Jesus

I work at a preschool in rural Rutherford County. A co-worker told this about her nephew.

The kindergartner sneezed in Sunday school and his teacher admonished, "Cover your face when you sneeze so you won't spread germs."

The child responded, "Germs and Jesus. Germs and Jesus, that's all I ever hear."

The teacher looked dismayed. The boy explained: "You can't see neither of them."

Karen McCall
Bostic
Rutherford EMC member

Look at my son!

I was 17 when my oldest child, Robin, was born on a cold day in March. I was very proud of my new son and was taking him to church to present him to the world.

I wrapped him warmly in several layers. First, I used a small light blanket known as a receiving blanket. Then came a larger blanket. And last, a big fluffy blue blanket, guaranteed to keep him from the cold.

We arrived at church between Sunday school and the worship service. Most of the congregation was standing in the vestibule socializing. They greeted me warmly as I proudly carried my new son inside. They stood there waiting for me to show him off for the first time.

I unwrapped the blankets. One, two, three. As I unwrapped the last one, they all looked shocked and started to laugh. I had lifted the child upside down. Where his face should have been were two little pink feet.

I could have died. With help from the ladies, I quickly turned him around and unwrapped his face. He was red-faced and mad, but otherwise okay.

Ellen Brooks
Glade Valley
Blue Ridge EMC member

Back biting

One of the funniest stories I have ever heard came from a dear friend of mine, who, I'm sad to say has already gone to heaven. This story is so funny to me that over 10 years later I can still think of it and laugh out loud.

She said that one morning she woke up before her husband, who was lying next to her. After lying there a few minutes she realized her bottom teeth were not in her mouth where they were supposed to be. She started feeling around in the bed trying to find them, but with no luck. About this time her husband woke up, got out of bed and started across the floor to the bathroom. Lo and behold, there were her teeth, stuck to his bare behind!

Sarah Elliott
High Point
EnergyUnited member

Twice blessed

Once there was a Christian lady who was always thanking the Lord for everything. One nice day she opened all the windows of her house and proceeded to just pray her heart out.

She had a neighbor who she considered "lost," and she had been witnessing to him about the Lord. He happened to be passing by and heard her praying. He stopped to hide and listen. She was praying for the Lord to send her food because her food was out.

He said, "Oh boy! I'll fix her." He rushed down to the grocery store and bought some food and put it on her porch. He hid again and watched her. When she found the food, she fell down on her knees and went to praying and thanking the Lord for the food.

All of a sudden the man came out of his hiding place and told her, "There ain't no Lord. He didn't give you that food. I put it their myself ."

She turned around and fell on her knees and went to praying and said, "Lord, I thank you for the devil, too."

Ruby G. Hart
Farmville
Pitt & Greene EMC member

Down in front!

One evening, my husband and I decided we would go to the movies. Since we had eaten a pinto bean supper, my husband was more than a little uncomfortable in the stomach area. He complained several times that his pants were too tight across his belly. I told him to just unzip his pants a little, and no one would notice in the dark theater. So he did.

After we settled down to watch the movie, a large lady decided she was leaving the movie. When she passed in front of my husband, he stood up fast and zipped his pants up. For a minute, I didn't know what was going on, but here's what had happened. When my husband stood and zipped his pants, he caught this lady's dress in his zipper. The two of them were stuck together, pulling and tugging, trying to get the dress out of the zipper.

Everyone in the theater was yelling, "Sit down in front!" My husband and the lady started moving slowly out of the row and down the aisle toward the back of the theater. They looked like a big sand crab on the beach moving sideways down the aisle. By now, everyone was laughing. They finally got her dress out of the zipper, but I'm still laughing.

Jean Hodges
China Grove
Blue Ridge EMC member

Why does the chicken cross the road?

I once knew a salesman who liked to travel back roads rather than the interstate because he loved the local color of whatever town he was in. Once while driving a country road, a chicken ran into the road, directly in the path of his car. He hit the chicken and killed it. He felt terrible.

He saw a farmhouse up the road and figured the chicken came from there. He drove up the driveway and saw children playing in the yard along with a large assortment of animals — dogs, cats, chickens, rabbits, goats and even a couple of donkeys. He knocked on the door, and an elderly lady with a dishtowel in her hand answered. He explained to her what happened and told her how sorry he was. She just shook her head and said, "If I done told that chicken once I done told him a hunnert times to stay out of the road."

Wanda Howard
Charlotte
EnergyUnited member

Top drawer

Years ago I was in the hospital for a short stay and not enjoying it at all. As he was leaving for home, my dear husband asked, "Do you want me to bring you anything tomorrow?"

"Yes," I replied. "Bring me some panties. They are in the top drawer of the bedroom dresser."

When he returned the next day, he put his hand in his pocket and took out a handful of pennies. As he was opening the drawer of the bedside table I asked, "Why are you putting all those pennies in my drawer?"

"You told me to bring you some pennies, and I did," he said. "But I couldn't find any in the drawer. I had to go to the bank."

Virginia L. Kinley
Woodleaf
EnergyUnited member

Clothes make the boy

One day my first grader son came home and said he needed a costume for school. I was used to this, since the school was always having projects that required a costume. When I asked him what kind of costume he needed, he said it didn't matter, just so it was a costume.

I had an old box of fabric, and I went through it to see if I could get an idea of what to make. When I spotted a piece of striped material, I decided to make a prisoner's uniform, with a cap and stenciled ID numbers.

I was halfway finished with the costume when I started thinking I should call the school and find out exactly what it was for. When the principal answered, I explained what was going on. He started laughing so hard that he couldn't talk. When he gained his composure he said, "Ma'am, your child is supposed to wear a costume that represents what he wants to be when he grows up."

Connie Beck
Lexington
EnergyUnited member

Working under the car

One day a woman came home from shopping. She saw her husband working under his car. She could see him extended beneath the car from his waist down. Being a prankster, she couldn't resist this opportunity. She walked over to him, unzipped his pants, and then went into the house.

A few minutes later her husband came running to get some bandages. The wife asked what was wrong. He told her that a friend from work was working on their car when someone came up and unzipped his pants. It startled him so much that he rose up and cut his head on the underside of the car.

I don't know if she ever told him the truth.

Brenda Poplin
Norwood
Pee Dee EMC member

continued on page 16

Send us your best. Earn $50.

"Nothing Could Be Finer" 2000 Themes & Rules

The Rules

1. Approximately 200 words or less.
2. Only one entry per household per month.
3. E-mail or typed, if possible. Otherwise, make it legible.
4. Include your name, electric co-op, mailing address and phone number.
5. If you want your entry returned, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. *(We will not return others.)*
6. We pay $50 for each submission published.
7. We will post on our Web site more entries than we publish, but can't pay for those submissions.
8. Send to Nothing Finer, Carolina Country, 3400 Sumner Blvd., Raleigh, NC 27616. Or by e-mail: carolina.country@ncemcs.com. Or through the Web site: www.carolinacountry.com

June

"The Kindest Thing Anyone Ever Did"
To you or anyone else.
Deadline: April 15

July

"The Worst Storm I've Ever Seen"
What happened?
Deadline: May 15

August

"Why I Like My School"
Submissions from students age 18 and under only.
Deadline: June 15

September

"The Finest Photo in North Carolina"
N.C. people and places.
Deadline: July 15

October

"My Best Fish Story"
Even if it got away.
Deadline: Aug. 15

November

"The Finest Family Recipe"
Your best recipe and the story behind it.
Deadline: Sept. 15

December

"Our Finest Family Tradition"
Passed down through the years.
Deadline: Oct. 15

Keep those brains in!

A woman went into a grocery store to make her purchases. On her way in, she noticed another woman sitting in a car with her hands behind her head and her eyes closed, as if she were taking a nap. Though it appeared odd, the first woman continued into the store and spent about two hours buying groceries.

On her way out of the store, she saw this same woman in the car. This time, however, the woman's eyes were open. She appeared troubled, so the first woman went over to check on her. With desperation in her eyes, the lady in the car asked her if she would call 911. She said she was the victim of a drive-by shooting and had been shot in the back of the head. She said she couldn't move because she was holding her brains.

Of course, the first woman immediately ran to call 911. EMS arrived and asked her to please lean forward so they could see the wound. When she did, the EMS workers laughed. Seems that the woman's head "wound" came from her own bag of groceries. A can of biscuits exploded and hit her in the back of the head! She had been there three hours holding biscuit dough!

Needless to say, everytime I open a can of biscuits I think of this poor lady!

Eugenia R. Swelling
Brevard
Haywood EMC member

The Swedish embassies in Charlotte

My son had just married a darling native of Sweden. They fell in love while she was here on a temporary visa. They started their life together with a move to Charlotte. My wife Kay and I lived in Chicago at the time, and having been to Charlotte many times, Kay offered to drive them there to find an apartment.

The trip was uneventful and they arrived safely, checking into a budget motel close to where they were looking for apartments.

During the search, it became necessary for my daughter-in-law to obtain some papers about her citizenship. My wife went down to the motel lobby for advice, where a cheerful lady was at the desk reading the newspaper.

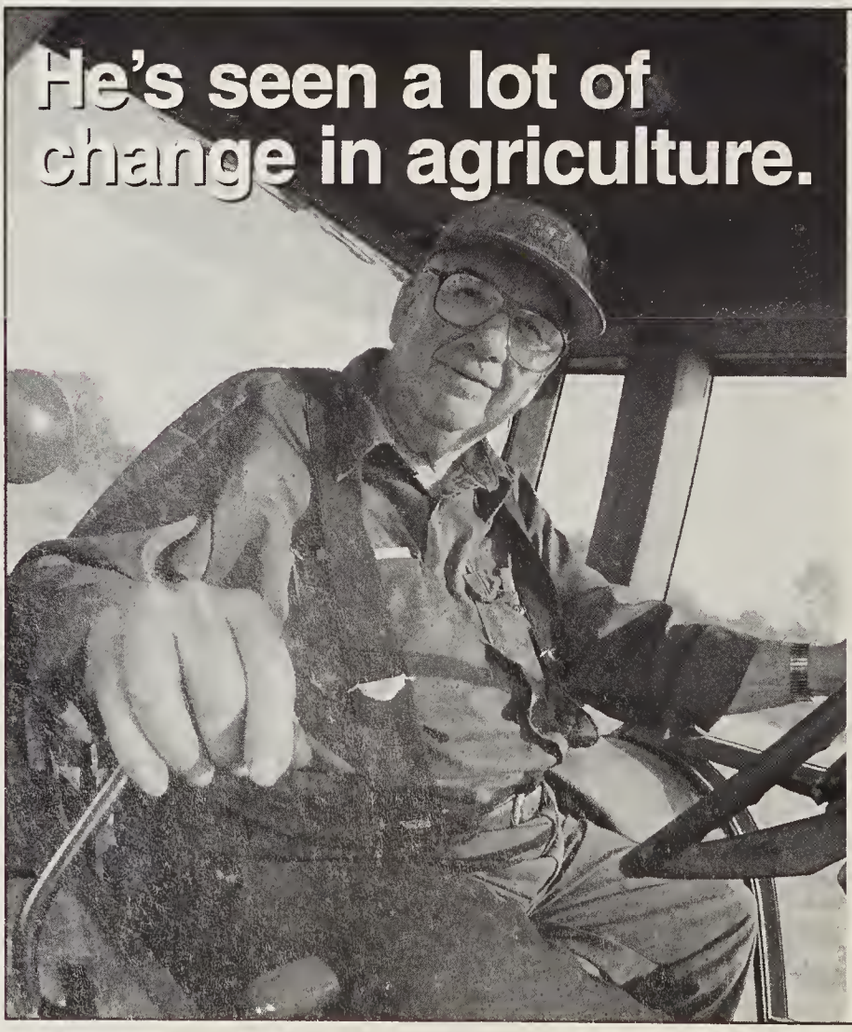
"Can you tell me if there is a Swedish Embassy, and how I might get there?" my wife asked, hoping she could handle the business locally.

"Well, ma'am, I'm pretty sure where one is, and I think there are two," said the clerk, as she checked the yellow pages.

"Two embassies?" my wife said, puzzled.

"Yes, hun, and they're real nice places. But down here we don't call them Swedish Embassies like you do in Chicago. Down here they're called Embassy Suites."

Lad Moore
Jefferson, Tex.



So have we.

At Farm Credit we have served the needs of rural Americans for more than 80 years. And while there's been many changes in agriculture, you've always counted on Farm Credit to be a dependable source of credit. And that's one thing that will stay the same. Now, and for future generations.

We make loans at competitive interest rates for all kinds of purposes. We also provide many other financial services. Our loan officers are knowledgeable and can help tailor a financial package to fit your situation.

So, whether you are a commercial operator, a part-time farmer or simply like living in the country, we want to do business with you.

Agricultural Loans and Country Mortgages

Carolina Farm Credit 800.521.9952
East Carolina Farm Credit 800.951.3276
Cape Fear Farm Credit 800.323.9188

www.agfirst.com

Moonshiners and the law in Granville County in the '60s and '70s

The law is coming from that-a-way

By Cynthia M. Currin

Chief Officer Currin (top right) was among the lawmen who in the 1960s intercepted this collection of illegal whiskey-making equipment near Oxford, N.C., while it was being transported from one location to another. The van trucks carried a 500-gallon still, hundreds of pounds of grain, huge mash tanks, boilers, pipes and large quantities of glass containers.

In 1963, when Granville County went "wet," my dad, Arthur R. Currin, was appointed as the county's first ABC officer. His job was to enforce the law that prohibited the manufacture and trafficking of untaxed illegal whiskey. That is, he hunted down and destroyed liquor stills. I learned when I interviewed him in 1976, however, that he had been involved with moonshiners for 30 years, even before he became a Granville County Deputy Sheriff in 1953. He had helped his father, my grandfather, who was a Deputy.

Making liquor invalves heating and capturing the steam fram a fermented mixture af sugar, meal and yeast, and then caaling and condensing it back into a liquid. This fermenting mixture af sugar and carnmeal must sametimes sit as lang as four days before it is ready ta be distilled.

My father explained that there were three types of stills popularly used. The aldest and mast traditianal was the capper-pat still. After the fermented mash is paured inta a capper pot, it is heated ta a boil. The vapar cantaining alcahal rises and is captured and carried through a pipe to a filter barrel called the "daubler." Extraneous particles drap fram the steam at this paint before it is carried inta the capper "warm," a cail surraunded by water which acts as a cooling system. The praduct af the process is liquor.

A second type af still was the "submarine." Shaped like a boat, this still made af woad and iran served also as the mash-bax. Large and cheap, three or four submarines were aften used simultaneausly ta yield large quantities af liquar. Often the capper worm takes the farm af a "branch warm," sametimes an autamabile radiator, submerged in the branch ar stream ta caal.

The third type of still, the "steam plant," was heated by a steam boiler which farced live steam inta a wooden still-box ta bail the mash. These steam plants powered the largest operatians.

This phata shaws a still Dad raided in Granville County. The metal barrel is a "Wilkes County steam bailer" with piping that leads ta a waad barrel containing mash. The adjacent waod barrel is the daubler that acts as a filter. From there, steam vapar containing alcohol goes inta a copper warm located inside the waaden box at the rear, where the steam candenses into alcahal.

The cannecting pipes in front lead ta a floating metal pan in the creek, where the spent mash is drained and used as part of the next mash.

For safety purposes, all parts of the still through which the alcohalic vapor and liquid pass usually were canstructed af capper ar woad. If they used iron pipe or metal barrels ar iran solder, moonshiners risked distilling lead salts into the whiskey, which can poison a person. —CMC

I started seeing my first stills in the area back when I was a teenager and I was helping my daddy, a deputy, look for and seize stills back when I was fourteen or fifteen years old. It was back then that I learned how to walk without making tracks, how to slip up on the violators, because they were cautious and they had a lot of pet tricks that they used. They had to be sharp to ever get the still in operation.

I think the first time I ever arrested a man after chasing him was around 30 years ago, over near old Frederick School. I helped my daddy on that still, and we made two arrests. They had a real nice setup of wood and copper, and they were catching the liquor in a white oak tub, a No. 2 and 3. After we destroyed the still and put the men in jail, I recall taking the white oak tub, bringing it home, and using it as a bathtub for Ted, my oldest son. I don't think I've ever seen a still where the preparations were any better for sanitary conditions. And I'm sure they would have been making good liquor there, but we seized the still about the time they were fixing to put it into operation. But it was a real neat setup.

As Daddy explained it, moonshining was simply a tradition that was slow to die. Before Prohibition in 1919, the distilling of corn liquor was a perfectly legal and conventionally accepted process. In the late 1700s, farmers discovered that it was profitable and practical to make their corn crops into whiskey because it could be shipped to market more easily than bulky sacks of grain, especially over their bumpy, unpaved roads. But taxes were imposed on this corn liquor. In the famous Whiskey Rebellion of 1794, Pennsylvania farmers protested vehemently against the federal whiskey tax. Mildly responsive to their protests, the Congress withdrew the tax on small stills, satisfying the farmers of Virginia and North Carolina. Angry Pennsylvanians still refused to pay the tax, and many emigrated into more remote areas of the South, especially into the Yadkin Valley of North Carolina, where it was somewhat easier to evade the federal tax collectors. These emigrants, coupled with the existing population of whiskey-makers, may be the people who helped associate the title "Moonshine Capital of the World" with the town of Wilkesboro and the state of North Carolina. For whatever reason, moonshining was a tradition peculiar to the southern states, with North Carolina as a spearhead.

In the 1800s and the early 1900s, moonshiners were known to take great pride in their whiskey, brewing it slowly and carefully, especially if it was for their own use. But by the 1970s, this traditional process of whiskey-making was gradually dying away. "What we used to call the family-sized still out behind the house on the spring branch, is just about a thing of the past," Daddy said.

Well-organized and profitable, some stills produced thousands of gallons of liquor daily. One particular still that my father raided had the mash capacity of 20,000 gallons. One-fifth of that

was run daily. A distillery owner may never have actually come on location, but would hire still-hands who would "run" the liquor during the day and hire a night crew who transported the final product out and brought in new supplies. Stillhands were paid well, and they ate well. Law enforcement officers often discovered a cache of porkchops, steaks, bacon, eggs and coffee during a raid.

How to catch a moonshiner

In North Carolina, it is against the law to manufacture liquor, and a moonshiner violates this law as soon as he mixes the mash. From that point on he is subject to arrest. ABC officers usually learned about illegal liquor operations from citizens, paid informers or competitors of the bootleggers. Often the best information came from the paid informer or a competitor. "As a rule," Daddy said, "when you talk to a shady character that you've been acquainted with and worked with, and he gives you information, it's more likely to be correct than the suspicions of a law-abiding citizen."

Because stills must have water to operate (for both the chemical reactions and the cooling systems), they were situated on streams or branches — always small streams or branches, though, to evade hunters and fishermen. The stream may have been dammed up to increase the water supply. So, once the law enforcement officer knew the general location of a still, it was only a matter of time before he found the still, by walking the streams.

Bootleggers were clever, and officers proceeded very cautiously when scouting out a still. Officers also had trade secrets they used in locating and surveying stills. My dad refused to divulge them, but you can tell that they used their common sense:

> We never put down any tracks (and you know, it's muddy around stills). And you have to figure out some way to get in there and check that mash. He'll cover it up, (his mash), he'll cover it up a certain way, and if you take the lie off and don't put it back right, he'll know it. See, that's something I learned long, long years ago.
>
> There was one bunch over there at Stone Mountain. There were four of them ... and they had put their mashboxes in a sawdust pile to get to the mash to check it. And we always had to check the mash to get some idea about when it was going to run. And so these fellows would take big buckets and throw water up on the sawdust pile, and let it run down, and it would slick the sawdust over.
>
> Well, I had to get up there to check it, and there wasn't any way to get up there except to walk on it. So every time I would check the mash, I would take the buckets, wash it down, wash all the tracks out. And the only risk I was running was that they would come back before it dried. But it worked out all right. We caught them over there one Sunday.

While waiting for dynamite to arrive to destroy this moonshine operation, Chief Currin and associates sample some of the steak and eggs intended to feed the stillhands. Five were arrested here.

To avoid leaving footprints, officers would never walk on the same path the violators used. They sometimes walked right up a stream to leave no tracks. Once, my father and other officers had miscalculated the right time to raid a still, had left their tracks in a muddy road, and arrived at the still later to find it completely unguarded and unattended. In order that the still hands would suspect nothing on their next trip, the officers spent four hours smoothing over their tracks with a garden rake for a half-mile. Sure enough, the workers suspected nothing, and all three were arrested that morning. "You've got to learn the violator and learn what he's looking for," Daddy said.

During the raid, officers arrested all stillhands, dynamited the still, and poured out the liquor. They confiscated vehicles for county purposes and often gave foodstuffs like sugar to the County School Lunch Program. Fines or sentences were usually proportional to the size and production of the still. Some violators received suspended sentences.

The largest still that my father raided in Granville County had a mash capacity of 20,000 gallons. They confiscated 15,000 pounds of unused sugar and donated it to the county schools. Six violators arrested at another still were sentenced to 30 years combined, though the sentences were suspended. Instead, each paid the court $2,000, and they lost their vehicles at the still. Including their lawyers' fees, these men could very well have lost $20,000.

Not all still operations were so large. Small stills of the traditional type, although few, could be found in Granville County in the 1970s. A moonshiner who had worked a big still might retire to a smaller operation of his own. Because whiskey-making was

→

once a legal practice, and because people used to make liquor for their own use, many latter day moonshiners saw little harm in making their own liquor. Those who sold it seemed to believe they were only stretching the law, not breaking it. Here's how Daddy described those characters:

> Most people in the liquor business — manufacturing, wholesaling, retailing — seldom violate other laws. It's mostly the liquor law they violate. For the most part, they are people who don't give the law enforcement officer any trouble once they're caught. They know the risks they are running and what the consequences will be. They are lucky sometimes. Occasionally, they get caught. There may be times, and I do know of a few instances, where you have people who try to cause trouble and be smart. I know of two or three cases where people in the liquor business have gone on into safe cracking and gambling and turned out to be ruffians. But that's not the general rule — for the most part the violators don't give the officer any trouble, and most of them depend more on the officer when he goes to court than any other person. Of course, after several other violations, he'll probably go on the road, but he won't blame it on the officer that caught him.
>
> I know of some relationships between violators and officers where they have great respect one for another. If the officer treats the violator right when he is caught, he usually won't have any problems when he's brought to court. I know two or three fellows that I've been having to deal with for the past twenty-some odd years, that I have a high regard for and feel like are real artisans in their profession. They know what they are doing and don't think that the law they are breaking is that bad.

"Now that's the truth!" Confessions of a moonshiner

One moonshiner for whom my father had such respect was the habitual violator, Stan Jones (not his real name). A spry 61-year old man, Stan spoke to me freely and proudly of his moonshining experiences. When I asked how many times he had been caught making liquor, Stan exclaimed: "Oh, Lord! I can't count'em! Now that's the truth!" After deciding at last that he had been arrested about 10 times, Stan swore that he had now reformed. Having dabbled in moonshine for 40 years, this sexagenarian spouted proudly his knowledge, experience, and his own personal process and recipe.

> Although they were definitely at odds over the law, moonshiners and ABC officers respected each other.

Stan's father also made whiskey, but Stan did not learn the process from him. His father refused to let Stan come to his still with him. But, growing up in an environment in which it was condoned, and being exposed to the stills built by his uncle and his friends, Stan finally decided to try to build one himself.

> Well, I mostly took it up from my uncles at first, and me and my brothers decided to make us some. And so we was working for a man and we started to put up one down there back of the house. And we didn't understand how to fix the pipes. We put them down too close to the bottom. And it blowed up on us. And some of that hot beer, you know, went all over us. And I said I won't gonna never make no more. My brother, he was hollering, and I was too.
>
> So then I went on and got married, and then I decided to try to make some myself after I'd worked at a big still, you know. And I'd learned how far to put my pipes down to the bottom and all that. But I messed up a whole lot of meal and sugar learning. I messed up a whole lot of it!

So, Stan learned mostly from experience and from watching others. No one ever really taught him what to do. Thus, Stan's recipe and equipment were traditional, but tempered by his own personal technique:

> The best way I ever known, when you was gonna make your whiskey, is go to a branch and take your stick in there and shake your water and see if there is beads in there in the water. If it don't bead, that water ain't no good for to make whiskey. If it bead, it's good water.
>
> And so then you get your barrel and you carry it to the creek or the branch, any one, and put it in there and swell it, if you don't want to lose your mash. Buy your meal, sugar, yeast, and ship stuff, instead of malt, now.
>
> Heat you a tub of water and pour it in your barrel, and then put your meal in it and stir it up and let it set an hour, for to make good corn liquor. Make sure your meal is cooked.
>
> So, after it cooked and set for an hour, you break it up and temp it, and you put your sugar, your yeast, and ship stuff on it. Stir it up. You're supposed to let it set, I'd say, some say let it set four days, but I ain't never had to do that. I was a fast worker! I'd let it set about two days. Two and a half, something like that. And after I run it the first time, I'd run the head and leave the bottom in there and go back and sweeten it up, 'til every day and a half I'm ready to run. That's the way it is with me!

My dad was amazed by Stan's technique: "He's the only man I know that knows how to run that often. But he does it by not running the whole barrel, by taking the good stuff off the top. When he only mashes back that far, he is that much further in the process the next time."

Although Stan admired the most expensive store-bought liquor, he was mighty proud of his own. He likewise took great pride in his equipment and techniques. He used only copper and wood in his stills. And Stan didn't always trust the liquor made by other bootleggers: "If I have to go out here and buy a jar of liquor, or a gallon of liquor, from somebody else, I don't know what be in it. You can't trust people. They are liable to run it off in a tin tub. And, you see, everybody know galvanizing is poisonous." Stan recommended constant rinsing of the barrels and pipes: "Keep 'em clean, like you been cooking."

Officer Currin takes inventory at a storage house that supplied a nearby still. About 1,500 pounds of seized sugar was delivered later to the Granville County school system lunch rooms.

By experience, Stan learned never to run his liquor too hot nor to allow acid traps to form in his branch worms, because they could ruin the liquor. An instinct told Stan when something had gone wrong with his liquor. Just by looking at it, he could tell if the mash was poisonous, and he would dump it. "When I go there and look in there and that stuff'll bubble right in the middle, will come up and bust open and do just like that, that's poison. You better shove it over! I don't know what causes it, but that's the way it'll do." Similarly, Stan decided what water made good liquor by checking to see if it would bead. He didn't understand the reason, but he knew the tradition.

Gullible to superstitions, Stan believed that if his liquor was poison, then "Somebody's been talking. Somebody's mouth has been running." That was a bad portent. Likewise, the appearance of a crow or a squirrel was a sign of good or bad luck:

> And if some crows, if some crows come from 'cross here and fly over it, the law is coming from that-a-way — the way those crows come from. That's right! Sure it's happened! And if he [the law] ain't out there then, when the man comes, that's the way he's coming — the way of them crows. I done watched it. A crow is unlucky to a still.
>
> A squirrel is good luck. If you see a squirrel come jumping by, you ain't got nothing to worry about.

Making liquor was only a part-time job for Stan, but a high-paying one. He earned between $300 and $500 per week when he made two runs per week. But, liking to socialize, Stan never saved his money. "Fast as it come to me, the faster I let it went! I used to shoot dice. Sometimes I'd go out and lose on the weekend what I'd done made that whole week." Yet, sometimes he made the liquor just for himself and a friend, Alfred King. Alfred would bring 5 to 10 pounds of sugar, Stan would make corn liquor, and they would just sit around and drink it.

Stan said making whiskey was hard work. Stoking the fire, running the mash, filling jugs, making new mash, cleaning out the barrels, and watching for the law kept him busy.

Stan also learned early how to trick the law. Obviously, he had to pay off his sugar and jar merchants so they wouldn't talk. When he didn't want to stay and guard his still, he would leave a substitute:

> I always took a string — thread, black — and stretched it all the way around the still. Have it high enough not for a dog to break it, but if a man goes through there, he'd break it, but not have it low enough for his hands to hit it. That's something you had to watch all the way, about a man's hand. Then, when you get ready to go back down there and run it, you catch that thread in your fingers and go all the way around it. Some law is slick enough, that if they run into it and break it, they tie it back!

A Ford loaded with half-gallon glass mason jars seized during a raid in Fishing Creek township, Granville County.

Chief Currin and his daughter

This article comes from a paper written in 1976 by Cynthia M. Currin while she was a senior majoring in English at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. It was a project for a folklore class taught by Dr. Don Patterson. The original is at UNC's Wilson Library in a southern folklore collection.

Forming the basis of the article are Ms. Currin's 1976 interviews with her father, Arthur R. Currin, and his favorite moonshiner.

Arthur R. Currin served as Chief Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Officer in Granville County from 1963 to 1980. He served as Granville County Sheriff from 1980 to 1986. Prior to these positions, he served as a Deputy Sheriff from 1953 to 1963. He also farmed tobacco during these years. Mr. Currin retired in 1986 and lives on the family farm in northern Granville County with his wife, Marie, a retired schoolteacher. They have four children (Ted, Tom, Tim and Cynthia) and recently celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary. He enjoys spending time on the farm and participating in American Legion and army reunion events. (He served in World War II.) He has been known to make homemade wine.

Ms. Currin is a partner in the law firm of Crisp, Page & Currin, L.L.P., in Raleigh, where she has practiced law for the last 20 years. She and her partner, Bob Page, concentrate their practice on representing electric cooperatives in North Carolina and across the nation. She edits a national legal publication, the "Currin Energy Page™."

Newspaper photographs from the period, republished here, are from Mr. Currin's collection. Except for Mr. Currin's, all names of people in the article have been changed.

Arthur Currin and Marie, his wife and Cynthia's mother, dressed for a dance in 1999.

Although they were definitely at odds over the law, moonshiners and ABC officers respected each other. As Daddy said, some of the still operators were "real artists in their profession." And moonshiners felt some officers were pretty "slick," too.

Stan, however, formed his own set of ethics about escaping from the law. One time, the law came close when he had plans to go to Richmond, Virginia:

> Remember that time Mr. James and Sam Lawrence run me in Tar River up yonder? That's the time I left here. They hadn't caught me, now. That's something I ain't never done. After the law gets his hands on me, I never would leave him or I ain't never jumped a bond. But I got away. I outrun them and left. I went and made the money [in Richmond] and come back and give up!

Sometimes, of course, Stan did get caught. After one arrest when the officers weren't paying him much attention, Stan swiped a jar of his own liquor and began drinking.

> So, while they were talking I got to drinking. I reckon I drinked up. That's something I don't understand. Whole lot of folks say I'm saying something wrong, but I know I drinked over a jar. It's a wonder that it didn't kill me. I'm telling you the truth. I drinked it just like it was water. Ain't never seen nothing to beat it. I sure done that thing!

Other times Stan's arrests were extremely serious. In fact, Stan got himself into a really bad situation when he was arrested three times in a row and was released on bond all three times before his first case came to court. By that time, a judge had seen enough evidence to send Stan to the state pen for six years. But he was paroled after serving two years in jail. After that episode, Stan stayed straight for one whole year. "But then it got in my blood again to make some more."

So, when Stan swore that he was reformed and wouldn't ever make any more liquor, I tended to doubt his declarations. Daddy just grinned and said, "He'll make some more liquor before he dies. He'll get into some more trouble."

As Stan himself explained: "That store-bought liquor is mighty good. But if I had my choice, I believe I'd rather to have my own liquor. Ain't nothing like telling the truth, is it?"

Cynthia M. Currin is an attorney who concentrates on representing electric cooperatives.

How we survived Floyd's floodwaters

By Judith, Douglas and Tabitha Capps

On September 15, 1999, we left our home and went to our church to spend the night. Hurricane Floyd was coming for a visit, and we felt our church would be safer than our home. Several families spent the night at our church, and we felt very lucky that we saw little damage when we got up.

I called my neighbor about 10 a.m. to check on our home, and the news from him was unbelievable. Water was going into our home and was about four feet from the ground at the lowest point. Our house was an island. Water was about six feet high at our front door. The only way in was by boats. Friends and neighbors came with boats and helped several families out of their homes. Our two dogs were at home, one outside and one inside. We just knew that they were gone, but they were saved. Out beautiful horse, Sonny, was swept away in the rushing water and later was found dead. So was our miniature horse, Two-Bits. My husband had 46 chickens when we left home, and they all were gone, too.

Helicopters were flying low all the time looking for stranded people, and at night, this was very scary

We drove our van when we left home because it held more blankets and supplies. Our car and truck were both under water. The insurance company totaled both.

All things on or near the floor of our home were ruined. Our family and friends went by boat to get our most prized possessions — portraits, collectibles, important papers, Tabitha's school clothes, etc. We carried them to our church 10 miles away for safety. Little did we know that our church and surrounding areas were damaged by flood waters, too. That night our church had eight feet of water around it and everything was soaked. Our church building was destroyed.

By this time, we realized that we had no home, no vehicles (our van was damaged by water and would not crank), no clothes, no food, no drinking water, no electricity, no phone, no nothing. We had lost everything!

Friends offered us a small camping trailer in their yard and use of their car. Lots of people provided us with food and water and ice. When the sun went down, and still no electricity, my fears of the unknown went high. Helicopters were flying low all the time looking for stranded people, and at night, this was very scary. No TV. We didn't know how many people were missing or dead or if the creek was rising again. We had no where to go. All roads were out, so we couldn't go anywhere even if we wanted to.

The Red Cross and everyone helping were so giving to families that lost everything. Hot meals, water, blanket, clothes, food and money, and most of all prayers.

Three and a half months later we made it back in our home. It was one week before Christmas. Our floors and walls have all been torn out and replaced. New kitchen cabinets, new bathrooms, new carpet, new furniture given to us by a local church. Thanks to my two

sisters, we were able to save most of our clothes, curtains, sheets and towels — all washable items. Several churches provided money to buy our Christmas and other necessities. Our employers helped us with money and gift certificates to help us start to rebuild our lives.

What have we learned from this experience? Our God is awesome! During our lowest time when we felt all was lost, God was so involved in all aspects of our lives. Our stored-up supplies were gone but at mealtime we always were provided for. When it got too cold to sleep in the camper, a bedroom and bed was supplied. We had our van fixed, bought back our truck and had it repaired, purchased a newer car. God is everywhere and taking care of all of our needs.

All material things can be replaced. Some families lost loved ones, and no one can ever replace a dad, mom, sister or brother.

Losing our house seemed like such a great loss and it was, but our church loss was like losing a family member. We had to realize that a church is not just a building. The pastor and God's children make up our church. We only missed one Sunday morning service. God supplied a shade tree until we could re-do our fellowship building where we now hold services. With the faith that we have in God, we plan to rebuild our church building and continue to increase our church family.

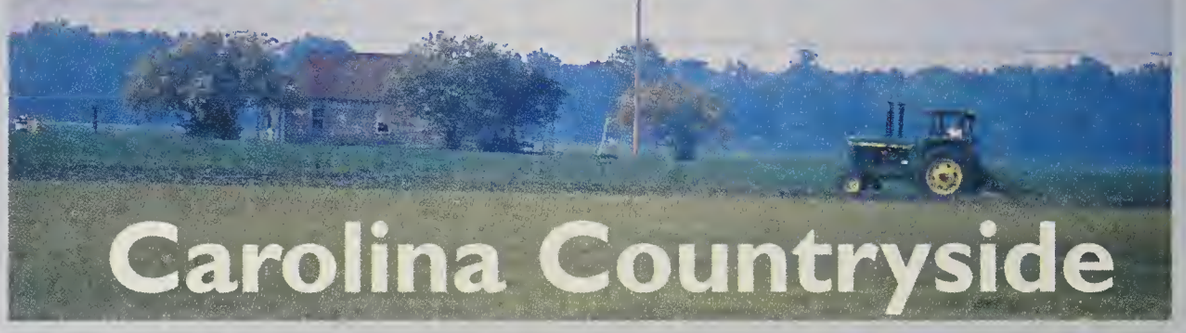
This is just one family's testimony. Ten families in our church alone lost their homes. Thousands of families in this area lost everything.

In years to come when you read of our trials and perils, please don't feel sympathy. Know that we were blessed because we had God in our hearts, and He did perform miracles in our lives at our greatest time of need.

The Capps family, members of Edgecombe-Martin County EMC, live at 737 Cypress Creek, Pinetops, NC 27864

Bowles task force, tobacco settlement fund, and new state energy combine to help rural areas reach prosperity

6 Ways to Revive the Carolina Countryside



By Renee Gannon

Our state is "on the verge of becoming two North Carolinas," Gov. Jim Hunt said last July. "One is urban and thriving, the other is rural and struggling."

Hunt made that statement as he formed the 28-member N.C. Rural Prosperity Task Force, which he challenged to find ways to bring prosperity to the 3.9 million citizens in the state's 85 rural counties. The task force traveled across the state during the year and listened to rural people, then in February announced a six-point prosperity plan that could revive rural areas within five years.

The programs would cost $677 million in new state government resources over five years, and the panel identifies an additional $400 million that could from the private sector. One source of funding could be the Golden L.E.A.F. Foundation set up to disburse funds from the recent legal settlement of a class-action against the tobacco industry. The 5-year-old North Carolina Progress Board, chaired by the governor, will oversee the process outlined by the task force.

Erskine Bowles, a Charlotte banker and former White House chief of staff who chaired the panel, said the tasks are urgent. "We have for too long under-invested in rural North Carolina," he said at the Emerging Issues Forum at N.C. State University in February. "If we don't make investments now, we will see the rural areas fall farther and farther behind, and become a burden on urban centers. We will see more youngsters abandon the rural areas because of the lack of opportunity and hope. As a state, we can't afford to let that happen."

Added Hunt: "This is a moral issue, as well as an economic issue. We need to commit ourselves heart, mind and soul to bring these recommendations about."

For more than 60 years, North Carolina's electric cooperatives have pursued projects similar to all those recommended by the task force in support of rural development, and they expect to be a resource for the task force initiatives.

The Plan

The task force originally had 70 proposals and whittled them down to six. "Those six can make a real, measurable difference, and give every child born in rural North Carolina a real and equal chance to succeed in the 21st century," said Bowles.

1. Information Technology

- Provide, at affordable rates, high-speed (128K residential; 256K business) reliable Internet access to the homes and businesses of rural North Carolina.
- Allow providers of Internet services to share the state government's statewide high-speed network.
- Lease space from local telephone companies for telecommunications equipment that connects to phone company equipment.
- Initiate a state fund to encourage private sector investment in broadband Internet access services in rural areas.
- Spend $5 million per year for three years to help subsidize up front private investment in these projects, paid by an 8-cents per month surcharge per phone for those three years.
- Coordinate all organizations that provide information technology training.

Electric and telephone cooperatives statewide are involved in varying degrees with providing Internet access, Internet education and supporting cabling projects in schools.

2. Rural Redevelopment Authority

- A new Rural Redevelopment Authority would finance economic development projects and invest in rural business development.
- A new Rural Redevelopment Bank, capitalized with a $200 million public investment, would create a revolving loan fund of $50 million to finance loans and grants for economic development, as well as a long-term development fund to invest in stocks and bonds, with projected earnings of $12-$15 million a year, for subsidizing bonds and investing in economic development projects, including sites, industrial parks, water and sewer, road improvements, loans for facilities and assistance.
- Funded by a one-time capitalization of $200 million, paid for with four yearly installments of Golden L.E.A.F. Foundation funding, other private funding or a state bond issue.
- A private, for-profit fund to invest in small growth businesses, including those engaged in new agriculture product research, development and processing. Funded by a one-time investment of $15 million in state funds plus $30 million from private sources to leverage some $90 million from the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Electric cooperatives and their statewide office offer low-interest loans for economic development projects including industrial park sites, shell buildings, infrastructure, and new job creation.

3. Education, Training and Retraining

- Incentives to rural community colleges to train workers (including retraining laid-off workers), focus on regional priorities, create industrial training centers, and expand literary efforts. Funded by $17 million in state funds annually.
- Fund the state's school equity formula to improve the ability of rural schools to educate their children, costing $33 million a year in state funds.
- Expand N.C. TEACH, a university-community college program designed to attract to teaching mid-career professionals in other fields.
- Fund the N.C. Model Teacher Consortium to encourage teaching assistants and other personnel to pursue teacher licenses and teach in their home communities.
- Provide certification training for rural teachers in training.
- Increase the state government contribution to rural community college budgets by $25 million annually to compensate for lower local funding.

The longstanding commitment electric cooperatives have made to education includes Bright Ideas direct grants to teachers, higher education scholarships, in-school safety programs and support for rural community college programs.

4. Agriculture

- Create a consortium of farmers, agribusiness leaders, researchers and other interested parties to research trends and opportunities to improve farming and agriculture interests. Funded by $250,000 annually for the first two years, and $500,000 for three years, through the Golden L.E.A.F. Foundation or other private sources.
- Expand state promotion of agricultural and biotechnology products. Funding could encourage suppliers to begin or expand efforts, including hosting international trade shows, creating new markets, and providing potential markets with scientifically-based research to address concerns about tobacco, pork, beef and various transgenic crops and products. Funded by $6 million annually from reallocating existing NCDA funds, from product check-off funds, and through Golden L.E.A.F. or other sources.
- Expand marketing of horticultural products funded by $1 million annually through Golden L.E.A.F. or other sources.
- Increase e-marketing and e-commerce involving agricultural products, enabling farmers, groups of farmers, dealers, gins, packers, warehouses and others to work among each other using the Internet. Funded by $1 million annually through Golden L.E.A.F. or other sources.
- Support on-farm and community-based agricultural enterprises, including independent animal-processing facilities, biopharmaceuticals and others.
- Contribute $3 million in state funds annually for five years for research into genetic changes in crops, including tobacco, to produce industrial enzymes, pharmaceutical proteins, vaccines, new forest products and other products.
- Boost efforts to identify new high-value farm products such as herbs, fruits, vegetables and other specialty items. Educate farmers in production techniques and marketing strategies and help in development of markets. Funded by $1 million annually in state funds for five years.
- Identify and encourage production of plants shown to promote good health, prevent disease or provide other medicinal assistance, known as nutraceuticals. Funded by $2 million annually in state funds for five years.

Electric cooperatives first brought power to the state's farms and have been partners and advocates in their development ever since, including back-up generation, agribusiness support, energy-efficiency advice and electric load management.

5. Infrastructure

- Authorize an additional $1 billion in water and sewer bonds. Waive local matching fund requirements for poor communities. Service the bond debt with approximately $7.5 million in state funds the first year, $65 million the second, $100 million the third through fifth, then declining.
- Increase the Housing Trust Fund from $9 million to $15 million for affordable housing. (The Housing Trust Fund is for down payment assistance for first-time homebuyers, repair needs of the elderly and disabled, and rental housing loans for the elderly and those with special needs.) Funded with $6 million more than the FY 1999-2000 appropriation.
- Complete improvement projects on Highway 70, Highway 17 and Highway 19E. Additional funding per year for six years needed to build each of these projects would be: Highway 70's Goldsboro Bypass: $30.1 million per year; US 17 in Bertie County: $2.6 million per year; Highway 19E in Mitchell, Yancey and Avery counties: $7.6 million per year.
- NCDOT should require construction time of highways to be speeded up to save money and help economic development corridors become a reality sooner. The Task Force recommends a six-year building requirement.
- A task force would work with the Governor's Office and USDOT staff in Washington to secure new and additional funding for rural road priority projects.
- NCDOT should negotiate with Norfolk Southern for use of its railroad line from Salisbury to Asheville for passenger service. NCDOT should market its Rail Industrial Access Program as a means of spurring economic development.

Electric cooperatives help to fund infrastructure in industrial parks and for job-creation projects, as well as for unusual projects including recovery from natural disasters.

6. Building Community Capacity

- Create an initiative designed to boost leadership in rural communities, improve their ability to design and carry out community development projects and find funding to help with implementation.
- Create a one-stop center for communities working on multi-dimensional community development problems incubated in the Rural Economic Development Center. Funded at $3 million per year through Golden L.E.A.F. and other sources.
- Create a fund to provide grant money for community projects developed locally or regionally that address multiple, integrated issues, result in sustainable enterprises and communities, and can demonstrate a clear return on investment, including civic, economic, social, environmental and educational returns. This fund would initially be in the Rural Economic Development Center, then could be relocated to the Rural Redevelopment Authority. Funded at $6.65 million per year through Golden L.E.A.F. or other sources.
- Provide needs-based scholarships to existing and future rural civic leaders, funded by $350,000 per year through Golden L.E.A.F. and other sources.

Special initiatives launched by electric cooperatives, such as the annual Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., Volunteers Committee activities in senior centers and civic organizations, leadership in charitable causes, and individual contributions to local efforts all demonstrate that cooperatives are committed to their communities.

For more information about the Rural Prosperity Task Force and its report, see the Web site http://ruraltaskforce.state.nc.us or call (919) 733-5082.

ONLINE

Personal computing advice
By Reid Goldsmith

The latest in computer screens

ViewSonic sells more LCDs in this country than any other vendor.

You probably don't think twice about your computer monitor. Most people simply take the monitor that comes with their computer (the vast majority of computers are sold with monitors, despite the misleading practice by some manufacturers of pricing computers without them). You probably won't think again about your monitor until it's time to buy a new computer.

Yet your monitor is what, in more ways than one, you interface with. You may get touchy-feely with your keyboard and mouse, but you stare at your monitor every second you compute, and it stares right back at you.

Interesting developments involving computer monitors may make you think more about yours.

The most visible development is flat-panel displays for desktop computers. Flat panels, also called LCDs (liquid-crystal displays), until recently were used primarily with portable computers. Now some desktop computers feature them. In contrast to the bulky CRT (cathode-ray tube) monitors that typically come with desktop PCs, LCDs are slimmer and lighter and emit less heat and radiation. Optionally, you can replace your existing CRT with an LCD.

I tested two of the best and brightest desktop LCD monitors, the NEC MultiSync LCD1510+ and the ViewSonic VP150 ViewPanel, and I was impressed with both. Unlike CRTs, which tuck part of the screen under the plastic bezel, LCDs expose the entire screen. Consequently, despite the 15-inch size of these two models, they provide nearly as much viewing area as 17-inch CRTs.

NEC, at http://www.nectech.com/monitors, is the worldwide leader in LCD sales, and its 1510+ distinguishes itself by its ability to swivel, letting you switch from horizontal (landscape) mode to vertical (portrait) mode. Portrait mode is useful with desktop publishing and image editing. Unlike with some other LCDs, the 1510+ also displays a bright, sharp image when viewed from the side rather than straight-on.

NEC is the worldwide leader in LCD sales.

ViewSonic, at http://www.viewsonic.com/prod/panel.htm, sells more LCDs in this country than any other vendor. Its well-regarded VP150 doesn't swivel from landscape to portrait mode like the 1510+ (other ViewSonic models do), but it displays equally sharp text and graphics.

The downside to flat panels continues to be price. The NEC and ViewSonic units are both mid-range models, costing $1,300 and $1,230 respectively, almost four times the cost of a CRT. Clearly, unless you're cramped for space, desktop LCDs are still extravagances.

Another way to save space is to buy a CRT or LCD monitor with built-in speakers. Although such speakers are fine for listening to the beeps and bongs of alert messages, if you use your computer for music, you'll find the sound quality compromised.

Both LCDs I looked at require analog conversion and can be used with any graphics card. Other LCDs, sold by ViewSonic, NEC, and others, are all digital, taking digital data from PCs without conversion. They require special graphics cards and cost slightly more, but they produce more accurate colors and sharper screen images.

Digital CRTs, on the other hand, are expected to reach the market shortly. They convert the digital information computers produce to the analog information CRTs require within the monitor itself, rather than within the graphics card. This is also supposed to improve image quality, but the reports I've heard from beta testers have been mixed.

Another way monitor manufacturers are improving quality is with flat-screen CRTs. All the major manufacturers now sell flat-screen models, which produce less glare and distortion than conventional curved screens at only a price premium.

Trading up to a larger CRT can also bring benefits, such as displaying larger text, sharper pictures, and more windows on screen. Moving from a 15-inch to a 17-inch monitor can be cost-effective. Larger 19-inch models have come down in price recently, and new ones occupy only slightly more space than older 17-inch models. Behemoth 21-inch monitors are still expensive and primarily of benefit to graphics professionals. Better CRT manufacturers include MAG, Mitsubishi, ViewSonic, and NEC.

Some graphic designers use two monitors, for which you need a special graphics card. This can let you, for instance, edit the underlying HTML code of a Web page on one monitor while seeing the results on the other.

To prevent eyestrain when staring at any monitor, don't get too close to the screen -- keep your face at least 18 inches away.

But the most effective eyeball-friendly trick I've come across is changing your software's color scheme. With Microsoft Word, for instance, you can change from the default scheme of black type on a white background to white type on a dark blue background, causing less light to shine into your eyes.

Reid Goldsborough is a syndicated columnist and author of the book Straight Talk About the Information Superhighway. He can be reached at reidgold@netaxs.com or http://members.home.net/reidgold.

POOLS! POOLS! POOLS! - From $595*...

Take the plunge - at Neptune Pools we believe a quality pool should be within everyone's budget!

FREE INSTALLATION on aluminum pools

Plus, when you buy your dream pool, you'll also receive a FREE winter cover and starter chemicals. So, call today for a free yard survey and information on all our pools.

• Financing available • Full installation and service dept. • Standard and custom decks

NEPTUNE POOLS, Inc.

Serving the Southeast with quality pools for more than 13 years - fully licensed and insured

**12' x 24* oval pool (not pictured) Prior sales excluded.*

Call today - 1-800-323-7946

Hours: Monday - Saturday 9 am - 9 pm

Installation and yard survey available in most areas - call to see if your homesite qualifies.

Mobile Home Owners

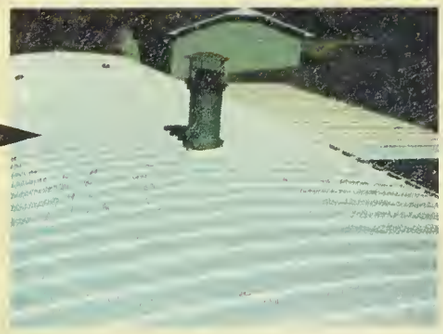
We have the answer to high energy bills, leaks and roof rumble...

Go from this...

cracked and peeling roof coating

To this

with a **Royal Roofover**



Strong, durable aluminum panels over thick, foam insulation. Easily installed over your old roof in as little as a day, the Royal Roofover has a 25 year warranty!

Royal
Home Improvements, Inc.
Serving the entire Southeast

The Southeast's largest Royal Roofover dealer - in business for 12 years - licensed and fully insured.

Call now! (800)462-8039

Visit us at www.royalhome.com

CAROLINA CLOSE-UP

Compiled by Renee Gannon

Find out your breast cancer risk

Breast cancer continues to be a significant problem in the United States with roughly one in eight women developing breast cancer during their lifetime. It is important for women to perform breast self-exams at the age of 20 and to start receiving yearly mammograms at age 40.

Breast cancer occasionally runs in families, which greatly increases a woman's risk of developing breast cancer. Today, there are computer models that can offer a reasonable prediction of the risk for developing breast cancer during the next five years, as well as the remainder of your life.

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) is performing a trial in high-risk women to try to find ways to decrease their risk of breast cancer. The NCI's goal is to find ways to prevent breast cancer.

For women who would like to determine their risk of getting breast cancer, call the NCI at 1-800-4CANCER. The NCI will send you a risk assessment form to fill out and return. From that, you will receive a printout describing your risk of breast cancer. The NCI will also provide you with information on which doctors are involved in the clinical trials to prevent breast cancer in North Carolina and across the country. In eastern North Carolina, facilities in Goldsboro, Clinton, Smithfield, Raleigh, Durham and Chapel Hill are participating in the trial. Call 1-800-4CANCER to get connected to the facility nearest you.

New community resource center opens in Gaston County

Everyone is invited to the dedication of the Citizen's Resource Center in Gaston County on Tuesday, April 25, at 6 p.m. The Citizen's Resource Center is the new home for seven federal, state and county agencies: N.C. Cooperative Extension Service, Gaston County Parks and Recreation, Gaston Natural Resources Department, N.C. Forestry Service, USDA Natural Resources Conservation District, USDA Farm Service Agency and USDA Rural Development.

The center is a consolidation of these departments, which previously were housed in various building throughout the county.

After the ceremony, there will be tours of the new facility, including department information booths, entertainment and refreshments. Also, every visitor will receive a free tree sapling.

The new Citizen's Resource Center has something for everyone: rooms just for seniors, an activity room for art and craft projects and a conference center available for the general public to rent. Groups such as 4-H and Jazzercise classes will also be offered.

The Citizen's Resource Center is located at 1303 Dallas-Cherryville Highway in Dallas. For more information, call (704) 866-3141.

Special Events

"Seven Cent Cotton and Forty Cent Meat: North Carolina in the Great Depression" runs through April 20 at the Wilson Library, UNC-Chapel Hill. This exhibit features many aspects of the Great Depression in the state: photographs, newspaper clippings and artifacts. The exhibit focuses on education, factory and farm labor and public works in its look at the Depression's social impact on N.C. residents. Open free to the public. Call (919) 962-1172.

"A Salute to the Battleship Navy: Bremerton, 1944" is a World War II living history program scheduled for April 8-9 at the Battleship North Carolina in Wilmington. More than 100 "players" will return to 1944 when the battleship was undergoing an overhaul in Bremerton, Washington, after two years of war duty in the South Pacific. Sailors, Marines, Army troops, Navy WAVES, military vehicles and prewar vehicles will be on hand. Also, the Marines will demonstrate 1944 beach assault tactics. Admission is $8 adults, $7 seniors 65 and over and active military, $4 children 6-11, free for 5 and under. Call (910) 251-5797.

The Solar Connection Series is a series of workshops designed for homeowners, homebuyers, builders, architects, policymakers, teachers, students and general consumers begins April 11 and runs six consecutive Tuesdays. The workshops educate attendees on the new solar home designs, refitting existing homes for solar use and the benefits of solar energy. The series will be held at McKimmon Conference Center, N.C. State University, Raleigh. Call the N.C. Solar Center at 1-800-33-NC-SUN, or (919) 515-3480.

MerleFest 2000, April 27-30, on the campus of Wilkes Community College in Wilkesboro offers the best in new and traditional American music. Proceeds go to scholarships, area nonprofit agencies, as well as the Eddy Merle Watson Memorial Garden for the Senses and the Doc & Merle Watson Theatre. Call 1-800-343-7857, or visit the Web site www.merlefest.org.

"On the Wing," through May 15 at the N.C. Zoological Park in Asheboro is held three times daily at 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. in an outdoor theater near the zoo's North America entrance. It features flying birds of prey, including hawks, eagles, falcons, vultures and owls. The program is free with regular zoo admission of $8 adults, $5 children 2-12 and senior citizens. Call (336) 879-7200, or visit the Web site www.nczoo.org.

"Rodin: Sculpture from the Iris and B. Gerald Cantor Collection and additional works" runs April 16-Aug. 13, at the N.C. Museum of Art in Raleigh. French sculptor Auguste Rodin (1840-1917) was regarded as one of the greatest artists of his day. His primary source of inspiration was the human body. His masterpiece, "The Thinker," along with more than 130 bronze, marble, terracotta and plaster pieces are on display, as well as selective drawings. Admission to the exhibit is $7.50 adults, $5.50 seniors and students and for groups of 10 or more. Call (919) 839-6262.

Trust And Commitment. The Foundation Of Every Good Relationship. And At Least One Health Insurance Program.

Quite frankly, it's what you should expect in health insurance. And if you're 50 or over, you can find it with a program that's dedicated and reliable – AARP Health Care Options.

Designed to meet your needs now and in the future, AARP Health Care Options is committed to offering you options in health insurance. A variety of plans that include:

- Hospital Indemnity Insurance Plans, which pay a cash benefit for each day of your covered hospital stay, even if you have other health insurance.
- Hospital Advantage Insurance Plans, which offer higher hospital benefits than AARP's Hospital Indemnity Plans, plus surgery and post-hospital benefits.
- Long-Term Care Insurance, which helps cover the cost of home care and nursing home stays.
- And a wide selection of Medicare Supplement Insurance Plans, that can help with hospital deductibles or even prescription drug costs.

To find out which plan is best for you, give us a call and one of our Customer Service Representatives will help answer your questions. You'll also receive a free, no-obligation information kit outlining benefits, costs, limitations, exclusions and eligibility requirements.

Call today and join nearly 4 million members who rely on AARP Health Care Options.

AARP HEALTH CARE OPTIONS

Insured by
UNITED HEALTHCARE INSURANCE COMPANY
METROPOLITAN LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

1-800-245-1212, Extension 445

Weekdays 7a.m. to 11p.m., Saturdays 9a.m. to 5p.m., ET
www.aarphealthcare.com

AARP's Long-Term Care Insurance Plan is insured by **Metropolitan Life Insurance Company**, NY, NY. AARP's Medicare Supplement and Hospital Indemnity/Hospital Advantage Plans are insured by **United HealthCare Insurance Company**, Fort Washington, PA; for New York residents AARP's Medicare Supplement and Hospital Indemnity Plans are insured by **United HealthCare Insurance Company of New York**, Hauppauge, NY; **not connected with or endorsed by the U.S. Government or the Federal Medicare Program.** AARP's Long-Term Care Insurance Plan not available in PR. AS351

GO ELECTRIC

A buyer's guide by Sharon O'Malley

Cooking smart

Whether you're trying to save time, calories or your fingers while you cook, there's a kitchen appliance available to do the job. Cook safer, quicker and healthier by plugging in one of these handy devices.

1. Safety slicer

If you've ever nearly sliced a finger off trying to hack a bagel in half, BagelPro is for you. From ChefsChoice, the makers of professional knife sharpeners, BagelPro lets you drop the bagel (or croissant, English muffin or hamburger bun) into a chute and press down on a food pusher. The perfectly sliced halves drop down--and the blade never comes near your hand. BagelPro sells for around $50 through stores and catalogs like Williams-Sonoma, Brookstone and Hammacher Schlemmer. Call (800) 342-3255 for more information.

2. Moisture saver

Microwave ovens can rob food of moisture and produce dry, tough dinners. Nordic Ware's Microwave Tender Cooker, a pressure cooker using microwave technology, cooks under gentle pressure at elevated temperatures and seals in moisture, flavor and nutrition. Seasonings and sauces actually penetrate deep within foods for more tender, juicy meals. The Tender Cooker tenderizes, browns, cooks and flavors up to three pounds of meat or poultry in 30 minutes or less. Call (800) 328-4310 extension 629 to buy the appliance, which sells for $42.50.

3. Appealing peeler

Sore hands and fingers can prevent an otherwise eager chef from peeling fruits and veggies for homemade treats. The Rival stripper does the work for you. It peels and juliennes fruits and vegetables for salad trimmings, pie fillings and garnishes, all with hands-free operation. The device comes with five replacement cutting blades and an adjustable support for different-sized foods. Buy it for around $29.99 at hardware and department stores. Call (800) 557-4825 to find one near you.

4. All-in-one

Don't haul pots of boiling food from the stove to the sink to drain them; cook in the sink! Kohler's PRO CookCenters and PRO CookSinks combine a large working basin, cooking vessel and food preparation work surface. The integrated control of the cooking vessel heats water temperature to 212 degrees within minutes. With the push of a button, an electric countertop control drains water from the cooking basin. It costs around $2,400 at Kohler registered showrooms. Call (800) 4-KOHLER to locate one near you.

This guide is for informational purposes only and not intended as an endorsement by the North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives.

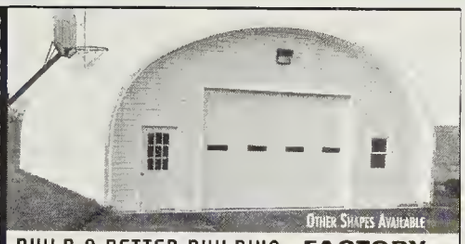
WANT TO ADVERTISE IN THE MARKETPLACE?

Space is available for display ads up to one third-page in size.
The cost ranges from$210 to $2500 per ad (800) 662-8835.

NURSERY STOCK & SEED

GROW HALF DOLLAR SIZE MUSCADINES & BLACKBERRIES, FREE CATALOG.
200 varieties fruit, nut trees, vines & berries.
1-800-733-0324. **ISON'S NURSERY,**
Brooks, Georgia 30205

GUARANTEED LOWEST PRICES



BUILD A BETTER BUILDING
• Sizes 500-20,000 sq. ft.
• Strongest for Wind & Snow
• Heavy 24, 22, 20 & 18 ga. steel
• Maintenance Free
PIONEER STEEL BUILDINGS
http://www.pioneersteel.com

FACTORY DIRECT
1-800-668-5422
SALE PRICE
FOR EXAMPLE - 25' X 40'
$3,844
FRONT END OPTIONAL

OAK HAVEN RESORT

LOG CABINS IN THE SMOKIES!

Conveniently located to all attractions:
PIGEON FORGE & GATLINBURG,TN
• Kitchens • Fireplaces
• Hot tubs • Large pool
Open Year Round
Call Toll-Free 1-800-652-2611
For a Free Color Brochure
www.oakhavenresort.com

UNITED STRUCTURES
1-800-332-6430 EXT. 129

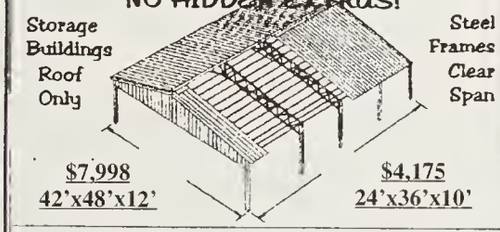
E-Z FINANCING
IDEAL FOR SHOPS, GARAGES, STORAGE
ALL SIZES or CUSTOM DESIGN
• Easy-Do-It-Yourself Construction
• Immediate Delivery or Free Storage
FACTORY DIRECT LOWEST PRICES
VISIT OUR SITE AT: WWW.USMB.COM

Premier
Building Systems

1-800-882-5150 PBS

The more you look, the better we look!
30 x 40 x 10 . . . . . $4,995
40 x 75 x 10 . . . . . $8,994
60 x 100 x 12 . . . . . $15,997
100 x 150 x 14 w/column . . .$34,997
All sizes available, & mini-storage units.
26 ga.,25 year roof & walls.
Codes may affect prices.
www.premierbuildings.com

Includes all Material, Erection, Freight, and Sales Tax...
NO HIDDEN EXTRAS!



Agri-Steel Structures
PO Box 1257 Woodstock, GA 30188
800-359-8613

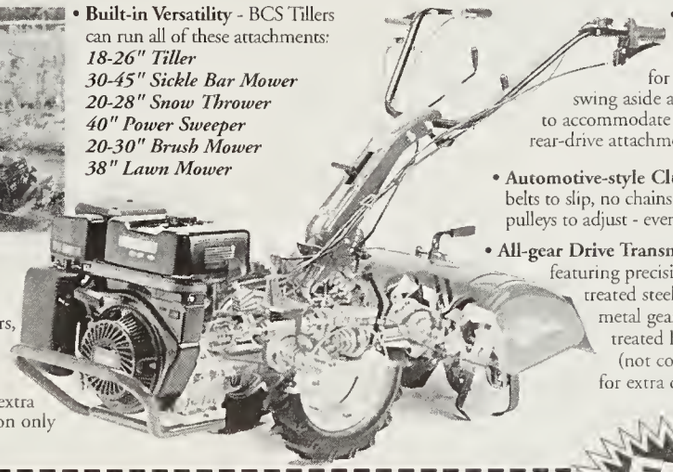
AEC BUILDINGS

It's our Building BLOWOUT SALE!!
You just can't beat these prices!
30 x 50 x 12.....$5,396
40 x 60 x 12.....$7,348
50 x 100 x 14.....$13,699
60 x 100 x 12.....$15,148
All 26 gauge, 20 yr. roof and walls
1-800-531-6575 M-F 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

It Takes Guts To Call This "The Best Tiller On Earth"...

Compare for yourself and see - BCS makes the toughest tiller you can buy!

• **Built-in Versatility** - BCS Tillers can run all of these attachments:
18-26" Tiller
30-45" Sickle Bar Mower
20-28" Snow Thrower
40" Power Sweeper
20-30" Brush Mower
38" Lawn Mower



• **Adjustable, Anti-vibe Handles** drop for easy turning, swing aside and rotate 180° to accommodate front and rear-drive attachments.

• **Automotive-style Clutch** means no belts to slip, no chains to break, no pulleys to adjust - ever!

• **All-gear Drive Transmission** featuring precision cut heat-treated steel (not powdered metal gears) and heat-treated hardened shaft (not cold-rolled shaft) for extra durability.

• **No-Time- Limit Warranty*** - includes shafts, gears, case, bearings - even seals! Provides years of protection at no extra cost! *Transmission only

Call Toll Free: 1-800-BCS-TRY 1 EXT. N
for your FREE Catalog and the name of a Dealer near You!

FREE CATALOG! Call Today!

☑ **YES!** Please rush me my FREE BCS Catalog and the name of my nearest BCS Dealer. Plus details on the "Dollars Off" Sale going on NOW!

Name_____
Address_____
City_____
State_____ Zip_____

BCS America, LLC
PO BOX 18000, DEPT. N, Portland, OR 97218
Or visit our website at: www.bcs-america.com

Pole Buildings

STANDARD BUILDINGS
24 x 32 x 8 . . . . . $5,600
24 x 40 x 8 . . . . . $6,700
30 x 40 x 8 . . . . . $7,900
32 x 64 x 10. . . . . $13,400

LOFT BARNS
24 x 32 x 8 . . . . . .$10,600
24 x 40 x 8 . . . . . .$12,300
30 x 40 x 8 . . . . . .$14,500
32 x 64 x 8 . . . . . $24,000

1-800-247-0241
Allwood Structures

KENTUCKY STEEL TRUSS BUILDINGS INC.™
FREE CATALOGUE
1-606-745-0606
www.kstbuild.com

20/70
24' X 30' X 8' $ 3,699
30' X 40' X 8' $ 4,999
40' X 60' X 10' $ 7,999
50' X 70' X 12' $11,999
60' X 70' X 12' $14,899
75' X 80' X 14' $19,799

AMERICA'S BEST BUY

FARM • CHURCH • SPORTS • HORSE • CAR • PLANE
ALL STEEL • ALL COLOR • [illegible] WARRANTY

WOW!

TRIO PROMOTION

Our Layaway Plan Allows You to Take Up to 24-Months for Delivery!

LIMITED TIME OFFER

Crockett
$24,980*
1224 sq. ft. – White Pine Kit

Wintergreen Mtn.
$22,980*
1116 sq. ft. – White Pine Kit

Blueridge Mtn.
$29,980*
1486 sq. ft. – White Pine Kit

All Designs Can Be Modified or Enlarged By Amendment!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL TOLL FREE 24-HOURS!

FREE VIDEO

1-800-562-2246

SPECIAL OFFER! Call today to order our Trio Pack which includes: Our 80-pg. **American Dream Book, (*Vol. 1*);** **Planning Guides *(Vol.2)*;** and receive the **American Dream Video FREE.** Reg. $19.95 For just.. **$15.95**

The *Original* Log Cabin Homes Ltd.
P.O. Drawer 1457 • 513 Keen Street • Rocky Mount, NC 27802
Phone: 252-454-1500• FAX: 252-454-1550
Website: http://www.logcabinhomes.com • E-Mail: info@logcabinhomes.com

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
CC# _____ Exp. _____ ☐MC ☐VISA ☐AmEx ☐Disc
CC4

**Sale price is subject to withdrawal without notice. See promotion flyer for specifications.*

ASK ABOUT OUR CEDAR & CYPRESS KITS AND NATIONWIDE FINANCING!

FACTORY DIRECT STEEL BUILDINGS

The Ultimate Arch Steel Building.
...Everything Else is an Imitation !

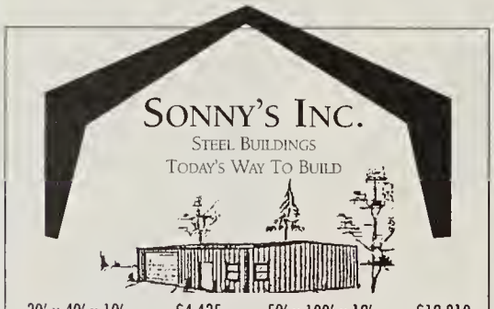
GREAT
Workshops • Garages • Storage

EASY *"Do-It-Yourself"* Construction
- 30 Year Warranty
- 100% Usable Space
- Financing Available

SAVE $$$$
20' x 38' • 25' x 36'
30' x 60' • 40' x 80'
Other sizes available

Call 1-800-341-7007
for FREE Brochure

STEELMASTER
www.steelmasterusa.com
AMERICA'S LARGEST MANUFACTURER OF ARCH STEEL BUILDIN



SONNY'S INC.
STEEL BUILDINGS
TODAY'S WAY TO BUILD

30' x 40' x 10'	$4,435	50' x 100' x 12'	$12,810
40' x 60' x 12'	$7,820	60' x 100'x 12'	$15,449
50' x 75' x 10'	$10,200	100' x 100' x 14'(MI)	$23,800

PRICES BASED UPON 20LB. LL & 80 MPH WL
CODES MAY AFFECT PRICES
800-524-3939
SONNY'S INC.
305 SOUTH 14TH AVE.
LANETT, ALABAMA 36863

ARCO BUILDING SYSTEMS, INC.
We will match any deal with Quality Steel!

ARCO Building Systems has been named by Metal Construction News as the 5th largest builder of metal buildings in the United States. We offer, **Direct to the Consumer**, the highest quality all steel buildings available, as well as the engineers to answer all your questions. With ARCO, you receive the most attractive, maintenance free building on the market with the service to match.

People Who Know Buy ARCO

40X60X12	$ 7,947
50X75X10	$10,172
60X100X12	$15,750
60X75X12	$12,263
50X100X12	$13,186
100X100X12 w/column	$22,977
100X150X14 w/column	$34,981

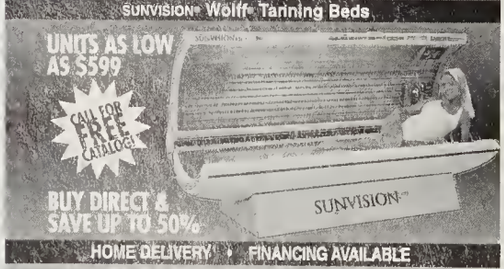
F.O.B. Plant - All Sizes Available
Codes may affect prices

1-800-241-8339
Visit us at our web site • www.arcosteel.com

ARCO BUILDING SYSTEMS, INC.
3300 Holcomb Bridge Rd. Suite 201
Norcross, Georgia 30092

TAN AT HOME!

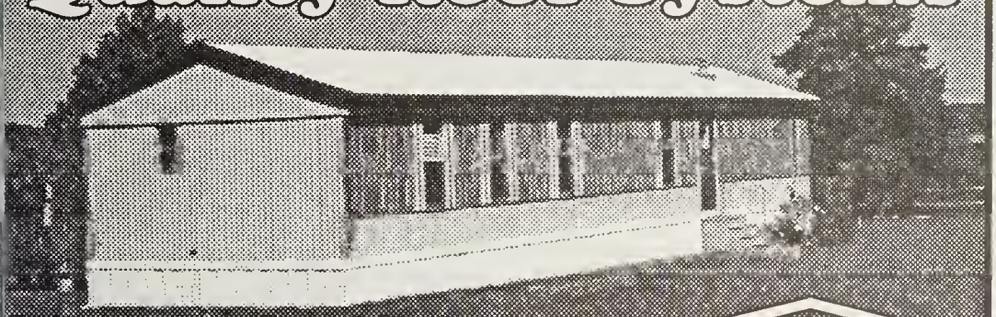
SUNVISION• Wolff Tanning Beds



HOME DELIVERY • FINANCING AVAILABLE

1-800-842-1324

Mobile Home Quality Roof Systems

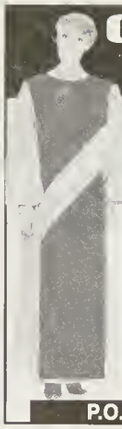


Our patented mobile home insulated roof system offers:

- No more leaks
- Lower utility bills
- One Foot Overhang
- Polystyrene Insulation
- Super Strong White Steel Roofing

PERMA-ROOF
Mobile Home Insulated Roofover
Exclusively From
Southern Builders
Since 1983

Call for free Information 1-800-633-8969



CHOIR ROBES
EXPERT TAILORING $29.95 & UP

Finest fabrics including permanent press and wash & wear. Superior quality. Free color catalog and fabric swatches on request.

GUARANTEED SATISFACTION

Call Toll Free:
1-800-826-8612

REGENCY CAP & GOWN CO.
www.rcgown.com
P.O. Box 8988-N Jacksonville, FL 32211

LOWEST COST
Term Life Insurance
Issue ages through 90

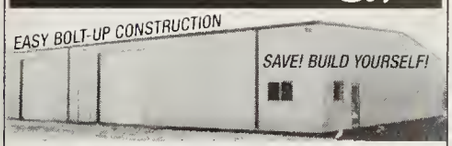
AGE	$100,000	$250,000
45	9.63	17.33
55	14.49	29.48
65	29.70	67.50

Rates figured on monthly cost for female non-tobacco users
RAMLET & ASSOC, INC.
(800) 933-6354
Old Republic Form No. 8-9600

Visit Carolina Country online at www.carolinacountry.com

FREE HEARING CATALOG!
• 45 DAY TRIAL
• $199 & UP
BETTER HEARING
DEPT B34. Brookport, IL 62910
1-800-320-3300 EXT B34

Accessible Buildings Co.



40 x 50 x 10 = $6,450
40 x 60 x 12 = $6,890
50 x 100 x 12 = $11,750
60 x 80 x 14 = $11,975
100 x 150 x 14 (M-1) = $28,500
ALL SIZES MINI-STORAGE!

COMMERCIAL • INDUSTRIAL
SHOP • FARM
CALL TODAY FOR BROCHURE AND BUILDING QUOTE!

1-800-509-4949

DRIP IRRIGATION • POND LINERS
Highest Quality • Best Selection, Low Cost!
DripWorks
Your Source For Drip and Micro Irrigation
190 Sanhedrin Circle
Willits, Ca 95490-9753
FREE Catalog
800•616-8321
email dripwrks@pacific.net

CLEAR MEADOWS, PASTURES, ROADSIDES

— all those non-lawn areas that ordinary mowers can't touch!

• The Amazing DR® FIELD AND BRUSH MOWER works like a tractor-mounted brushcutter...but in a walk-behind version that's far MORE MANEUVERABLE, and a whole lot LESS EXPENSIVE!

• CUTS tall grass, weeds, brush, brambles, even tough saplings up to 1" thick!

• Plus it CHOPS/MULCHES most everything it cuts; leaves NO TANGLE of material to trip over or to pickup like hand-held brushcutters and sicklebar mowers.

• POWERFUL 8 to 15 HP; with POWER REVERSE; 4 SPEEDS, BIG POWERED WHEELS roll through ditches, wet spots, up slopes with ease!

The perfect size for clearing and maintaining overgrown areas of 5 to 10 acres or more!

PATENTED
MADE IN USA

CALL TOLL FREE 1(800) 622-9944

PLEASE MAIL COUPON or Call for FREE DETAILS of the Amazing DR® ALL-TERRAIN™ FIELD and BRUSH MOWER!

YES! Please rush complete FREE DETAILS of the DR® FIELD and BRUSH MOWER including prices, specifications of Manual and ELECTRIC-STARTING models, and "Off-Season" Savings now in effect.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

DR COUNTRY HOME PRODUCTS®, Dept. 5919F
Meigs Road, P.O. Box 25, Vergennes, VT 05491
www.drfieldbrush.com

© DR® CHP, Inc.

NATIONAL BARN COMPANY LLC

SPECIAL PRICE $6,495 East of I-95 add $400

"The Pole Barn Professionals"

Painted Metal & Other Sizes Available

30x50x10 Galv., Enclosed

Price includes:
Materials, Delivery, Construction, with a 10' or 12' Sliding Door, One Factory walk-in Door with key, 2"x 6" Ceiling Joist, 6 Skylights and One-Year Warranty on Labor and Materials.
- Fully insured for your protection
- Visa, Mastercard, American Express are accepted.
- Call for a Free Brochure & Estimate.
- Codes may affect prices.
- 100% Financing WAC

OFFICE HOURS:
Mon.-Fri. 8:00- 5:00
Sat. 8:00- 12:00noon

Hay Barns, Storage Buildings, Garages & Horse Barns

1-888-427-BARN (2276)
FAX (615)325-2701
WWW.NATIONALBARN.COM • E-Mail: Nbced@gateway.net

- NO DOWNPAYMENT FOR QUALIFIED LAND OWNERS
- NO CLOSING COSTS
- NO CONSTRUCTION LOAN INTEREST

- Stick built homes from low 60s to 125 and up.
- 10 year Home Buyers Warranty
- Numerous floor plans with many customized features

CALL FOR A FREE BROCHURE
1-800-957-9304

Madison Homebuilders
1721 East Boulevard
Charlotte, NC 28203

CAMPBELL'S CHURCH PADDING
Professional Excellent Workmanship
Toll Free (800) 531-2220
We do not sell church pews.
30 yrs. experience
References available

FREE Poultry Catalog Showing

All Kinds of Poultry in color
Over 70 varieties, Baby Chicks, Exotic Rare Breeds, Games, Guineas, Turkeys, Bantams, Ducks. MasterCard, Visa & Discover. Write or call today for your copy of this year's FREE Poultry Catalog in color.
MARTI POULTRY FARM
Box 27-35 Windsor, Missouri 65360
Telephone 660-647-3156

ALL STEEL BUILDINGS
Guaranteed Lowest Prices
Compared to Buildings of Equal Quality and EXACT Specification

ALL STEEL BUILDINGS	
30' x 60' x 10'	$ 5,499.00
40' x 75' x 10'	$ 8,207.00
50' x 80' x 14'	$10,825.00
60' x 120' x 16'	$17,544.00
80' x 100' x 16'	$19,308.00
90' x 150' x 16'	$31,763.00
100' x 200' x 16'	$43,310.00

Mini-Storage Buildings From 10' to 60' wide

State of the Art Technology
Combined with old fashioned service
- ✓ Hay Storage Buildings.
- ✓ Machinery Storage.
- ✓ Riding Arenas.
- ✓ Complete line of Accessories.
- ✓ State Sealed Blueprints.
- ✓ Detailed Erection manuals.
- ✓ Plant locations Nationwide.
- ✓ Worldwide Export specialists.
- ✓ 24 hour a day Service Dept.
- ✓ Build it yourself Easy to Erect.

Global 2000 Building Systems • Toll Free 1-800-753-9090
Local 573-817-9696 Fax 573-817-9697

The best sawmill value...ever.

9hp $3795
13hp $4120
20hp $4695

NORWOOD INDUSTRIES INC

FREE INFORMATION
1-800-661-7746 Ext. 326

AMERICAN STEEL BUILDINGS

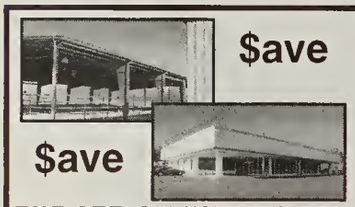
Buy factory direct! Mini-storage buildings

Commercial & industrial buildings
Church buildings

Agricultural buildings
Professional construction

Call today for a FREE quote:
1-800-240-3688
www.americansteelmfg.com

STEEL DEPOT
METAL BUILDING SYSTEMS
"The Name To Look For In Quality Steel Buildings"
1-800-541-0302
From 20 X 40 up to 200 X Unlimited
Lowest Prices X Highest Quality
From $3,650 Up
Also Lowest Price on Mini-Storage



$ave
$ave

- Farm/Industrial/commercial
- Easy bolt-together design
- 20 yr. warranty on walls
- Seal stamped blue prints
- Prices (F.O.B. our plants)

THE STEEL BUILDING PRICE LEADER
40' x 80' x 12'.....$9,965
50' x 100' x 12'.....$13,150
60' x 100' x 16'.....$15,985
100' x 100' x 14'.....$23,499

RHINO STEEL BUILDING SYSTEMS
(Toll Free) 1-888-320-7466
Fax: 940-484-6746 email:rhinobld@GTE.NET
Website: http://www.RHINOBLDG.COM

Hawaii From $1814
15 Day Farm Tour
The Best Escorted Vacations, You'll Ever Find
Departs every Tuesday, January 16 through January 30, 2001. Includes airfare. Hawaiian owned hotels, transfers, baggage handling, Escort flying with you from island to island, staying in OAHU, HAWAII, MAUI & KAUAI. Sightseeing includes Honolulu City Tour with Pearl Harbor, Volcano National Park, Kona Coffee Plantation Tour, Parker Cattle Ranch Museum, Orchid Nursery, Macadamian Nut Factory Tour, Wailua Riverboat Cruise, Fern Grotto, Guava Plantation, plus more as listed in brochure. Open Sudays - PPDO - Groups Welcome.
YMT VACATIONS
Your Man Tours • Affordable Travel Since 1967
1-800-888-8204
Our 33rd Year - Over a million satisfied customers

"HEAVY BREED" SPECIAL
100 for $19.95 50 for $13.95
Get big Reds, Buff Rocks, & huge Silver Laced Giants. Super healthy easy-to-raise chicks for only $19.95 per hundred plus postage. Mixed together as available.
Order now! We ship C.O.D. Send name and address, or telephone (717) 426-3411.
FREE poultry catalog.
RED TOP CHICK FARMS
BOX 100, MARIETTA, PA 17547

unscramblit!

A girl is buried in

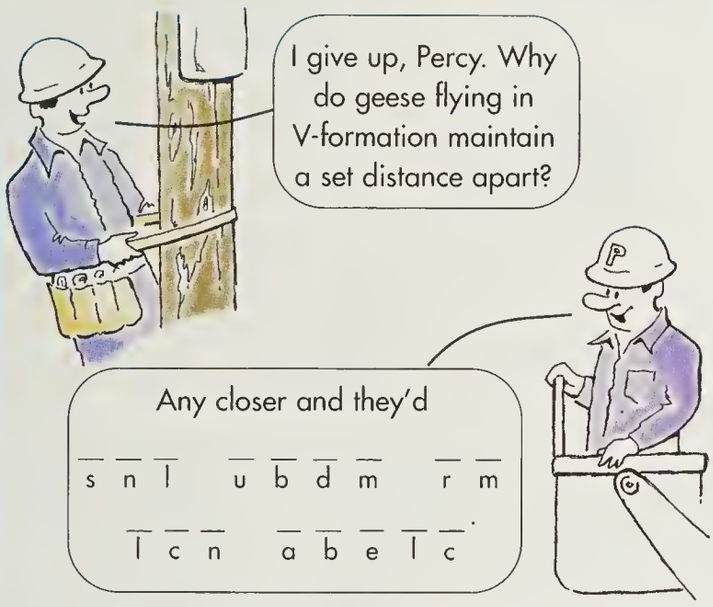
_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
n h o t a r l i c

in The Old Burying Ground in Beaufort.

Use the capital letters below to fill in the blanks above.

"A E F G K M O F E R U A O" means
n o r t h c a r o l i n a

Percy P. Cassidy Poles Apart


I give up, Percy. Why do geese flying in V-formation maintain a set distance apart?
Any closer and they'd
_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

LOG HOMES

Save 20% - 25% - 30%!

Our **"Get Going Kit"** - Full color Planning Guide of 80 designs, construction video and blueprint coupon! **Only $9.95** (+$3.95 S/H)! Call toll-free or send coupon **TODAY!**

AmerLink™

1-877-269-5647

P.O. Box 669, Dept NC,
Battleboro NC 27809

Rush my "Get Going Kit." Enclosed is check/money order for $13.90.

Name _____

Address _____

_____

Phone _____

America's Oldest & Largest Rare Breed Hatchery
Free Color Catalog

Over 140 varieties Baby Chicks, Bantams, Turkeys, Game Birds, Peacocks, Waterfowl, Guineas, plus Books, Equipment, Eggs, Incubators & Medicine.

1-800-456-3280
(24 Hours a Day)

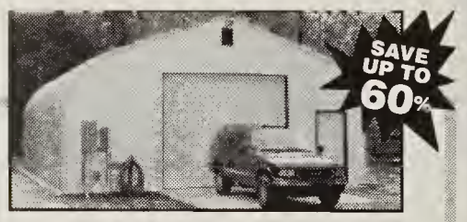
Murray McMurray Hatchery
C 130 Webster City
Iowa 50595-0458

Website: http://www.mcmurrayhatchery.com

Lightning Rod Systems

Modern Lightning Protection

Complete Installation
Call Modern Lightning
at 1-800-368-8090
anytime



- 100% made in the USA
- Ideal for use as a garage, storage or as a shop
- All steel building built super tough-with a 20 year warranty

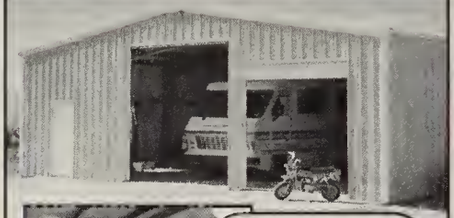
Limited time offer
800-547-8335
www.americansteelspanusa.com

AMERICAN STEEL SPAN™

MODELS INCLUDED
25 x 30 50 x 80
30 x 50 50 x 100
40 x 50 50 x 150
other models available

SUPER TOUGH STEEL BUILDINGS

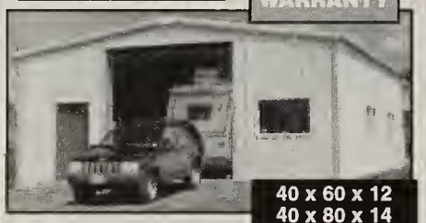
AT SUPER DISCOUNTS UP TO $4,000.00 OFF



CALL THIS MONTH AND TAKE AN EXTRA $1,000 OFF

Perfect For A Multiple-Car Garage With Plenty Of Room For A Workshop, Boat, RV and Equipment Storage

Made In The USA | **20 YEAR WARRANTY**



40 x 60 x 12
40 x 80 x 14
50 x 100 x 16
60 x 150 x 16
CALL FOR ADDITIONAL SIZES

MasterCraft
Steel Building Systems

toll free
888-781-6629 EXT #834
www.straightwallsteelbldgs.com

Address changes should be reported to your electric cooperative

---

NEED WOOD FOR A HOUSE? ENJOY WORKING WITH WOOD? WANT TO MAKE MONEY? COOK'S SAW AND SIMONDS "RED STEAK" BLADES ARE YOUR WINNING TEAM!

COOK'S SAW & MACHINE
THE LEADER IN BANDSAW TECHNOLOGY
1-800-473-4804

LYRIC CHOIR GOWNS

"Professionally tailored gowns of lasting beauty."

FREE catalog and fabric samples.

Since 1955...

LYRIC
CHOIR GOWN CO.
P.O. Box 16954-RP
Jacksonville, FL 32245

CALL TOLL FREE
1-800-847-7977

INCREDIBLE SAVINGS

ON DO-IT-YOURSELF STEEL BUILDINGS KITS!

AS SEEN ON TV

FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY!
SAVE ON SELECT SIZES
25x34 • 30x46
40x56 • 50x116
Many other sizes available.

AMERICA'S BEST SELLING BUILDING!

- FREE Blueprints
- FREE Storage
- 25 Year Warranty
- Maintenance Free
- Easy Do-it-yourself Construction
- 100% Useable Space

Visit us on the Web at www.us-buildings.com

U.S. Buildings™

FREE! **1-800-222-6335**
CATALOG AND FACTORY PRICE LIST

DIABETICS

with Medicare
or Insurance

We can save you money
on Diabetic Supplies.

For more information
call 1-800-337-4144

"Stick Built" On Your Lot!

- ✔ No down payment
- ✔ 10 year warranty
- ✔ We pay allowable closing costs
- ✔ No construction loan interest
- ✔ Over 30 Plans to choose from

Building West of I-95

Call Us for a Free Brochure!

Charlotte 800-544-9139
Greensboro..... 800-896-7922

American Family Homes

www.AFHomes.com

"I make more profit from a 1/4 acre greenhouse...than from 100 acres of row crops!"

—Jeff Balduff, farmer and greenhouse vegetable grower

Call 800-321-5656 for FREE Greenhouse Farming Pack!

Or, mail or fax the coupon below.

Farmers all over the country are increasing their incomes dramatically with greenhouse farming – the new, hi-tech, profitable ***family farm for the 21st century.*** With greenhouse farming . . .

Vine Ripe Tomatoes

Fancy Lettuce & Herbs

Seedless Cucumbers

Specialty Mushrooms

- You grow fresh, premium quality vegetables year-round.
- You sell locally, in off season when prices are highest and demand is great.
- Your crop is protected from bad weather; cash flow is more dependable.
- You have low overhead; you only need 1/4 acre.
- You work inside, in "spring like" environment all winter long.
- You have technical and marketing assistance from CropKing at all times.

Request our **FREE Greenhouse Farming Information Pack** for details on choosing a greenhouse, getting set up, marketing, etc. You'll also learn about our **Grower Training Workshops, Training Videos, Newsletters, Books** and other resources.

CropKing.com, Inc.
5050 Greenwich Rd., # NCM/G, Seville, OH 44273
phone 330-769-2002 • fax 330-769-2616
http://www.cropking.com
e-mail: cropking@cropking.com

Now Available!* Three FREE Videos
(*$4.95 shipping/handling per video):
- Your Future in Hydroponics
- Opportunities in Aquaculture
- Opportunities in Mushroom Production

Send me your FREE Greenhouse Farming Information Pack and tell me how to get the FREE Videos!

Name _____
Street _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____
Phone (_____) _____

NCM/G2000

Licensed

Earn Your Degree At Home

B.S./M.S. Degree Programs: •Business & Health Admin. •Hum. Res. Mgmt. •Computer Science •Environmental Mgmt. •Occup. Safety & Health •Criminal Justice

Certification Programs:
CECM, CFCD, HRM.
Cert. Pharmacy Tech.
Cert. Indust.. Hygiene Mgr.

Call for Free Catalogue
1-800-977-8449
ext. 963

Columbia Southern University
Orange Beach, AL
www.colsouth.edu

INTRODUCING

Fiberglass Storm Shelter
"UNDERGROUND"
The first name in *"Safety"*

Be one of the first 25 customers and get . . . **33% DISCOUNT**

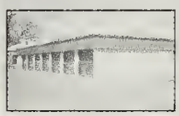
Quality is everything when your life depends upon it.

Molded-In Seating for 8-10
Ventilation System • Handrail
Carpet and Safety Stair Treads
Positive Inside Door Lock

Delivered & Installed
Lifetime Guarantee
100% Financing
CALL TOLL FREE:
1-800-841-2687
SHELTERCRAFT
SPECIALTY CONTRACTORS
LICENSED BONDED INSURED

Simpson
Steel Building Company
1-800-790-2126
FAX 1-316-429-8421

NOT A "ROUND TOP"!
NOT A "POLE BARN"!
100% ALL STEEL
PATENT #5577353



MINI STORAGE
30 x 100 x 8 - $9,868
ALL PRICES DELIVERED
Ask About Our Commercial Buildings

24 x 30 x 9 - $3,908
30 x 40 x 10 - $5,015
40 X 60 X 12 - $8,246
40 X 100 X 16 - $14,078

Garage/Shop • Boats/RV
Hobby Shop • Horse Barns

UNLIMITED SIZES TO CHOOSE FROM CALL TODAY FOR FREE INFORMATION

ATLANTIC METAL BUILDINGS
The Builder's Choice

Call for FREE ESTIMATES and Company Brochures
800-868-8164

Smithfield, NC 27577 • E-Mail:ambjfr@aol.com

Your Best Source for METAL BUILDINGS at Wholesale Prices

ERECTION by our trained crews available on all buildings

April

Carolina Compass

Mountains
(west of I-77)

March of Dimes Walk America
April 1, Statesville
Statesville High School,
(704) 873-2554

High Country Handbell Festival
April 1, West Jefferson
Ashe County High School
Auditorium, 4 p.m.,
(336) 246-ARTS

Raleigh Ringers Concert
April 1, West Jefferson
Ashe County High School,
7:30 p.m., (336) 246-ARTS

Ecology and Landscape Design
April 4, Belmont
Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden,
12-1 p.m., free with admission,
(704) 825-4490

Faulkner's World
April 4-29, West Jefferson
Touring photography exhibit,
Ashe County Arts Council,
(336) 246-ARTS

Razzle Dazzle
April 8, Waynesville
Art festival for kids, Performing
Arts Center, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.,
(336) 452-0539

Successful Gardener Seminar
April 8, Newton
Agricultural Resources Center,
9 a.m.-1 p.m., (828) 465-8240

Carolina Dogwood Festival
April 13-16, Statesville
(704) 528-0800

***"Oh, Mr. Faulkner,
Do You Write?"***
April 14, West Jefferson
Ashe County Arts Center,
7:30 p.m., (336) 246-ARTS

Ruritan Club Spring Festival
April 14, Union Grove
Parade starts at 10 a.m.,
(704) 539-4976

***Children's Garden Club:
Weather and the Garden***
April 15, Belmont
Grades 1-5, Daniel Stowe
Botanical Garden, 10-11 a.m.,
$5 for members, $10 for non-
members, pre-registration
required, (704) 825-4490

Spring Festival and Parade
April 15, Union Grove
(704) 539-4976

EarthDay 2000 Celebration
April 15, Gastonia
Featuring Banana Slug String
Band, Schiele Museum,
10 a.m.-4 p.m., (704) 866-6913

***Holiday Magic with
Natural Dyes***
April 15, Belmont
Color Easter eggs with natural
dyes, make grass basket, Daniel
Stowe Botanical Garden,
pre-registration required,
(704) 825-4490

Spring Pioneer Day
April 16, Weaverville
Vance Birthplace, 1-4:30 p.m.,
(828) 645-6706

Sunrise Festival/Easter Parade
April 22, Canton
Canton Recreation Park,
10 a.m., youth retreat at 4 p.m.,
(828) 648-7925

Earth Day Celebration
April 22, Belmont
Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden,
(704) 825-4490

Easter Egg Hunt
April 22, Elkin
Free to public, (336) 835-2025

Walk to the Wetlands
April 22, Cradle of Forestry
Pisgah National Forest, 10:30 a.m. -
1:30 p.m., (828) 877-3130,
www.cradleofforestry.com

Sunrise Service
April 23, Canton
Locust Field Cemetery, 6 a.m.,
breakfast follows,
(828) 648-7925

Easter Sunrise Service
April 23, Lake Junaluska
Cross/Amphitheater, community
wide, ecumenical service,
(828) 452-2881

***Citizen's Resource Center
Grand Opening***
April 25, Dallas
Home of 7 federal, state and
local agencies, (704) 866-3141

MerleFest 2000
April 27-30, Wilkesboro
Music festival, (336) 838-6267

Good Ol' Boys Rod Run IX
April 28-29, Statesville
Street rods, proceeds go to
Hospice, Holiday Inn,
(704) 938-7558

***America's Clogging Hall
of Fame Workshop***
April 29, Maggie Valley
The Stompin' Ground,
(828) 926-1288

***Johnnie Tilley Memorial
Bluegrass Festival***
April 29, Statesville
Central Elementary School,
(704) 876-2664

Spring Plant and Craft Sale
April 29, Belmont
Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden,
9 a.m.-4 p.m., (704) 825-4490

***Sheepshearing &
Springtime Chores***
April 30, Gastonia
Backcountry Farm at Schiele
Museum, 1-5 pm,
(704) 866-6911

Beyond Beauty
April 30, Cradle of Forestry
A look at native plants, Pisgah
National Forest, 1:30 p.m.,
(828) 877-3130,
www.cradleofforestry.com

Piedmont
(btwn. I-77 and I-95)

"Little Shop of Horrors"
Through Apr. 23, Greensboro
Musical, The Barn Dinner
Theatre, (336) 292-2211

***"Spirit of the Cloth"
Quilt Exhibit***
Through April 30, Charlotte
Mint Museum of Craft + Design,
(704) 337-2000,
www.mintmuseum.org

***"Like Father, Like Son"
Art Collection***
Through May 7, Raleigh
Portraits by Frans and Jan Hals,
N.C. Museum of Art,
(919) 839-6262

The Giant Maze
Through May 20, Greensboro
Maze, puzzles, brainteasers,
Natural Science Center of
Greensboro, (336) 288-3769

Wood Art Exhibit
Through June, Charlotte
Mint Museum of Craft + Design,
(704) 337-2000

"Forbidden Planet"
March 31-Apr. 1, Southern Pines
Drama, Sunrise Theater,
(910) 692-3799

***The Craftsmen's Classic
Arts & Crafts Festival***
March 31-Apr. 2, Greensboro
Greensboro Coliseum Special
Events Center, (336) 274-5550

The Children's Ball
April 1, Mount Airy
Benefits in-school cultural arts,
Cross Creek Country Club,
(336) 786-7998

Gem & Mineral Show
April 1-2, Raleigh
Scott Building, N.C. State
Fairgrounds, (919) 772-3429

Cat Show
April 1-2, Charlotte
Merchandise Mart, 10 a.m.-
4 p.m., $6 adults, $4 seniors, $3
12 and under, (336) 282-3089

Apaloosa Show
April 1-2, Raleigh
Graham Building, N.C. State
Fairgrounds, (336) 998-3266

Harness Track Matinee Races
April 2, Pinehurst
Pinehurst Harness Track, races
begin 1:30 p.m., free,
(910) 295-4446

Nature Printing
April 2, Winston-Salem
Schoolkids with adult, Reynolda
House, 2-4 p.m., $5, reserva-
tions required, (336) 725-5325

Piano Concert
April 2, Southern Pines
Weymouth Center, 3 p.m.,
(910) 692-6261

Health Expo
April 5, Southern Pines
Open to public, Douglas Center,
10 a.m.-mid-afternoon,
(910) 692-2463

"Forbidden Planet"
April 5-8, Southern Pines
Comedy, Sunrise Theater,
8 p.m., $10-12, (910) 692-3799

24-hour Trek: Museum Opening
April 7-8, Raleigh
24-hour celebration, N.C.
Museum of Natural Sciences,
free, (919) 733-7450

"Fame"
April 7-9, Mount Airy
Musical, Andy Griffith
Playhouse, $6, (336) 786-7998

"In the Dark" Exhibit
April 7-Sept. 10, Raleigh
Night creatures, N.C. Museum
of Natural Sciences, $3, $1 for
children and seniors,
(919) 733-7450

Dance TV Spring Review/ Silent Auction
April 8, Charlotte
Dance Etc./The Company,
Providence High School, $5-7,
(704) 543-1155

Bluegrass & Old-Time Music Concert
April 8, Mount Airy
Downtown Cinema Theatre,
7:30 p.m., $12-15,
(336) 786-7998

Seniors Day
April 8, Spencer
Senior citizens, N.C.
Transportation Museum,
(704) 636-2889

Spring Garden Tour
April 8-9, Chapel Hill
Historic Gimghoul
Neighborhood, (919) 962-0522,
www.maagcom.com/garden-tour2000

Piano Concert
April 10, Winston-Salem
Reynolda House, 8 p.m., $10
adults, $5 students,
(336) 725-5325

Heritage Days
April 11-12, Stanfield
Reed Gold Mine,
(704) 721-4653

House & Garden Tour
April 12, Southern
Pines/Pinehurst
10 a.m.-5 p.m., (910) 692-7488

"Pump Boys and Dinettes"
April 12, Winston-Salem
Musical, N.C. School of the Arts,
Steven Center, 8 p.m.,
(336) 721-1945

String Ensemble Concert
April 13, Southern Pines
Sunrise Theater, 8 p.m.,
(910) 692-6263

Gem & Mineral Show
April 13-15, Charlotte
Metrolina Expo Fairgrounds,
(704) 841-1886

Flashlight Egg Hunt
April 14, Southern Pines
Ages 9-15, Mini Pines, after
dark, (910) 692-2463

Amish Quilt & Craft Sale
April 14-15, Raleigh
Gov. Holshouser Building, NC
State Fairgrounds, free,
(717) 786-8487

Arts & Spring Craft Show
April 14-16, Mount Airy
Mayberry Mall, (336) 786-1005

Easter Bunny Quarter Horse Show
April 14-16, Raleigh
Hunt Horse Complex, N.C. State
Fairgrounds, (910) 521-9275

Smithfield Ham & Yam Festival
April 14-16, Smithfield
(919) 934-0887

Successful Gardener Seminar
April 14-16, Raleigh
At Southern Ideal Home Show,
N.C. State Fairgrounds,
(919) 560-0525

"Foxfire"
April 14-30, Sanford
Drama, Temple Theatre,
(919) 774-4512

Bluegrass Contest & Fiddlers' Convention
April 15, Yadkinville
Yadkinville Elementary School,
7 p.m., $7, under 10 free,
(336) 679-7041

Let Us Entertain You!

Ringling Bros. The Greatest Show on Earth Barnum & Bailey

Wednesday, May 3 - Sunday, May 7
Matinee & Evening Performances
Tickets on Sale April 3

For Tickets call:
Coliseum Box Office 910-323-5088 or
Ticketmaster 910-223-2900

CROWN COLISEUM
Cumberland County Coliseum Complex
Crown Coliseum • Expo Center • Arena • Auditorium
Fayetteville, NC • www.fayetteville.com/cccc

Freddy Cole
April 15, Winston-Salem
Jazz concert, N.C. School of the Arts, Stevens Center, 8 p.m., (336) 721-1945

The Blue Ridge Jamboree
April 15, Mount Airy
Andy Griffith Playhouse, 7:30 p.m., $5, under 12 free, (336) 786-7998

Family Fun: Bicycle Safety
April 15, Spencer
N.C. Transportation Museum, registration required, (704) 636-2889

Studebaker Car Show
April 15, Spencer
N.C. Transportation Museum, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., (704) 636-2889

Street Rod Safari
April 15, Asheboro
Pre-1973 autos, N.C. Zoological Park parking area, (336) 879-7204

Spring Kiln Openings
April 15-16, Seagrove
More than 50 potteries, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., (910) 873-7258

Easter Bunny Express
April 15-16, 21-22, Spencer
N.C. Transportation Museum, (704) 636-2889

Earth Day Celebration
April 16, Asheboro
N.C. Zoological Park, (336) 879-7204

Spring Chorale Performance
April 16, Mount Airy
Central United Methodist Church, 3 p.m., $7, (336) 786-7998

Easter Egg Hunt
April 16, Southern Pines
Age 8 and under, Campbell House grounds, free, (910) 692-2463

Easter Drama
April 21-23, Raleigh
Dorton Arena, N.C. State Fairgrounds, (919) 662-1586

"Moon Over Buffalo"
April 21-22, 27-30, May 4-6, Raleigh
Play, Theatre in the Park, (919) 831-6058

Baseball Card Show
April 22, Raleigh
Scott Building, N.C. State Fairgrounds, (919)553-4285

Before Easter Baskets, There Were Rabbits' Nests
April 22, Pinnacle
Horne Creek Living Historical Farm, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., (336) 325-2298

N.C. All Arabian Show
April 22-23, Raleigh
Hunt Horse Complex, N.C. State Fairgrounds, (919) 893-6668

Springtime Festival
April 23, Whispering Pines
The Heritage Farm, 1 p.m., free, (910) 949-3433

Senior Games in the Pines
April 24-May 6, Southern Pines
(910) 692-2463

Carolina Reining Classic
April 27-30, Raleigh
Hunt Horse Complex, N.C. State Fairgrounds, (252) 937-2800

Magic Moments with the Coasters, Drifters and Platters
April 28, Winston-Salem
Concert, N.C. School of the Arts, Stevens Center, (336) 721-1945

R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. Memorabilia Auction
April 28-29, Winston-Salem
Benefits Old Salem, Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum Annex, (336) 764-2057

British Car Day
April 29, Winston-Salem
Reynolda House, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., (336) 725-5325

Going, Going, Gone
April 29, Seagrove
Pottery auction to benefit pottery center, N.C. Pottery Center, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., $35, (336) 873-8430

Guitar Concert
April 29, Winston-Salem
Reynolda House, 8 p.m., $12, $8 senior citizens, (336) 725-5325

SpringFest
April 29, Southern Pines
Broad Street, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., (910) 692-2463

Civil War Surrender Reenactment
April 29-30, Durham
Bennett Place, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., (919) 383-4345

Eastern Woodlands Lifestyle
April 29-30, Mt. Gilead
Town Creek Indian Mound, (910) 439-6802

Spring Living History Day
April 30, Sanford
House in the Horseshoe, 12-5 p.m., (910) 947-2051

Message of H.O.P.E. Religious Crusade
April 30-May 4, Raleigh
Dorton Arena, N.C. State Fairgrounds, (828) 327-9015

Coast
(east of I-95)

Obsolete Objects
Through Sept. 4, Wilmington
Obsolete everyday items, Cape Fear Museum, (910) 341-7413

"The Hole World"
Through Sept. 30, Wilmington
Underground animals exhibit, Cape Fear Museum, (910) 341-4350

Gardeners' Weekend
March 31-Apr. 2, New Bern
Tryon Palace gardens open free to public, (252) 514-4900

Heritage Plant Sale
March 31-Apr. 1, New Bern
Tryon Palace, (252) 514-4900

African-American Builders & Architects in NC: 1730-1865
March 31-Dec. 31, Elizabeth City
Exhibit, Museum of the Albemarle, free, (252) 335-1453

Spring Historic Homes and Gardens Tour
March 31-Apr. 1, New Bern
$13.50 advance purchase, (252) 638-8558

Herb & Garden Fair
April 1, Wilmington
Poplar Grove Plantation, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., (910) 686-9518

Southern Heirloom Garden
April 1, New Bern
Lecture, Tryon Palace, 10 a.m., (252) 514-4900

"Commedia Cinderella"
April 2, Wilmington
Comic version of tale, Thalian Hall, 2 p.m., (910) 343-3664

"Broadway Center Stage"
April 5, Elizabeth City
COA Auditorium, 7:30 p.m., (800) 335-9050

N.C. Azalea Festival
April 6-9, Wilmington
(910) 763-0905

"The Glass Menagerie"
April 6-9, Wilmington
Drama, UNC-W, Kenan Auditorium, (910) 962-3500

Old South BBQ & Plant Sale
April 7, Wilmington
New Hanover County Arboretum, (910) 763-6739

22nd Annul Newport Pig Cookin' Contest
April 7-8, Newport
Newport Community Park, (252) 223-7447

Bluegrass Festival
April 7-9, Autryville
Rocking Horse Music Ranch, (910) 567-2614

Colonial Cooking
April 8, Wilmington
Burgwin-Wright House, 1 p.m., free, (910) 341-4030

Flower Bulbs for the South
April 8, New Bern
Lecture, Tryon Palace, 10 a.m., (252) 514-4900

Dig It!
April 8 & 29, New Bern
Children's workshop, Tryon Palace, 10 a.m., registration required, (252) 514-4035

Dinner Show
April 8, 29, Rose Hill
Duplin Winery, 6:30 p.m., $30.50 per person, (800) 774-9634

Azalea Festival Master Craft Show
April 8-9, Wilmington
Coast Line Convention Center, (910) 763-6739

Historic Wilmington Home Tour
April 8-9, Wilmington
(910) 762-2511

USS Battleship N.C. Birthday Celebration
April 9, Wilmington
(910) 251-5797

Dolphins
April 11, Beaufort
Slides and display, N.C.. Maritime Musuem, 2 p.m., (252) 728-7317

"Calling All Rosies: Women go to War, 1939-1946"
April 12, Wilmington
Lecture, UNC-W, Bryan Auditorium in Morton Hall, 8 p.m., free, (910) 251-5797

Halifax Day
April 12, Halifax
224th anniversary of the Halifax Resolves, Historic Halifax, (252) 583-7191

Beginning Birdwatching
April 13 & 15, New Bern
Lecture and bird walk, Tryon Palace, (252) 514-4900

NC International In-Water Boat Show
April 13-16, Beaufort
Town Creek Marina, (252) 728-6111

ECU Jazz Faculty & Friends Concert
April 14, Oriental
Pamlico Co. Civic & Cultural Center, 8 p.m., $12, (252) 249-3079

"Into the Woods"
April 14-15, 21-22, Elizabeth City
COA Auditorium, 7:30 p.m., (800) 335-9050

Publick Day
April 15, Beaufort
Crafts, food, music, Beaufort Historic Site, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., (252) 728-5225

Living History Weekend
April 15, Plymouth
Civil War encampment, reenactment, (252) 793-1377

Peter Keane in Concert
April 15, Beaufort
At Clawson's, 8 p.m., (252) 726-2399

Chamber Music Concert
April 15, Beaufort
NC Maritime Museum, $15, $7 students, (252) 726-3648

Home and Heritage Tour
April 15, Morehead City (departs)
Visit Fort Fisher and colonial Brunswick Town, (252) 247-7533

Celebrate Colonial Kids!
April 15-16, New Bern
Tryon Palace, (252) 514-4900

Fun Day in Bath Town
April 16, Bath
1-5 p.m., (252) 923-3971

Free Children's Concert
April 16, Wilmington
Wilmington Symphony Orchestra, UNC-W Kenan Auditorium, 4 p.m., (910) 791-9262

"The Last Days of Commercial Sail"
April 20, Beaufort
Stories and photos, N.C. Maritime Museum, 2 p.m., (252) 728-7317

Easter "Bunny" Carriage Tour
April 21-23, Wilmington
Historic downtown tour
(910) 251-8889

Easter Egg Hunt
April 22, Beaufort
Ages 3-8, Beaufort Historic Site, bring basket, 11 a.m., free, (252) 728-5225

Egg Hunt & Spring Festival
April 22, Wilmington
Hugh McRae Park, 10 a.m., (910) 395-1940

Handel's "Messiah"
April 22, Pinetown
Terra Ceia Christian Reformed Church, 8 p.m., free, (252) 943-2957

Earth Day Celebration
April 22, Wilmington
(910) 458-8257

"Eroica Trio"
April 27, Wilmington
Concert, Thalian Hall, 8 p.m., (910) 341-4030

Beaufort Music Festival
April 28-30, Beaufort
Weekend of free concerts on downtown stages, (252) 728-6894

N.C. Pickle Festival
April 28-30, Mount Olive
Airport and downtown, (919) 658-3113

The Coasters, Drifters and Platters in Concert
April 29, Morehead City
Crystal Coast Civic Center, (252) 247-3883

Medieval Festival
April 29, Wilmington
Poplar Grove Plantation, (910) 686-9518, ext. 26

Deadlines: June April 25
A phone number must be included with event listings in order to be published.

Send notices to:
Carolino Country
P.O. Box 27306,
Roleigh, NC 27611
FAX: (919)878-3970
e-mail:carolinocountry@ncemcs.com

Homeowner Loans

When Banks Say No...We Say YES!!!

1ST MORTGAGES

Amount	30 yr *7.75%	15 yr *7.375%
$50,000	$358.21	$459.96
$100,000	$716.41	$919.92
$150,000	$1,074.62	$1,379.88

100% Guaranteed Rural Housing Loans (FMHA)*

Refinance now while rates are low

- Lower your monthly payment
- Bill consolidation and home improvements
- Fast/local closings

Servicing North Carolina's Mortgage Needs

FEDERATED MORTGAGE, INC.

(800) 466-1635

Apply by phone
www.fedmort.com

* Restrictions Apply
* Rates subject to change and qualification
* APR may vary
* Credit and collateral subject to qualification

Multi-State Mortgage Licensee

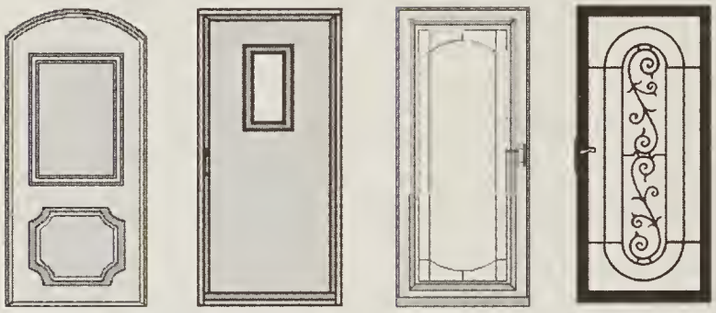
Fixed Rates

ENERGY CENTS

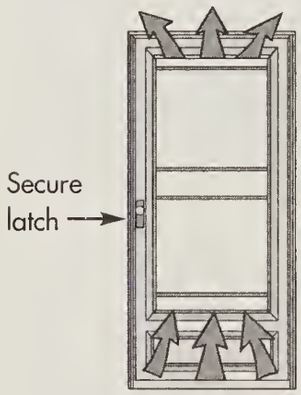
Choosing screen-storm door combinations

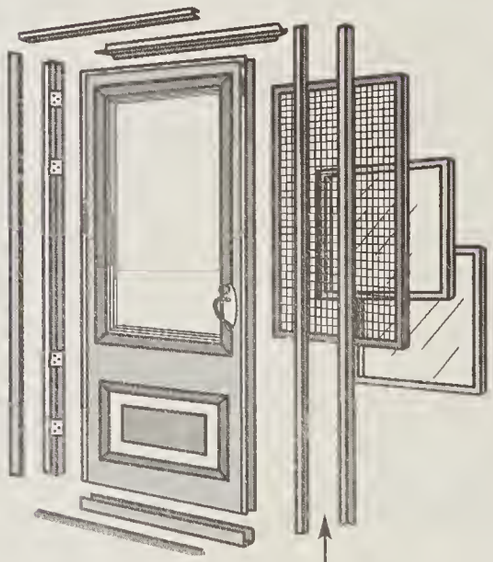
By James Dulley

Various styles of screen/storm/security doors



Adjust panels to create natural ventilation





A high-quality insulated triple-track door kit

Adding a good-quality screen and storm door can be a year-round money saver and improve your comfort. It will provide the natural ventilation that you want in the summer and less heat loss and drafts through your primary door in the winter.

A storm door can also dramatically increase the life of your primary door. This is especially true of north-facing doors that are made of wood. These doors must endure the full force of winter winds and the constant beating of the sun that is lower in the sky during the winter.

If you have not looked at screen/storm doors recently, you will be surprised at the attractive new styles and features. Some have hand-crafted leaded and beveled glass with solid bright or antique brass hardware. You can even personalize your door with rose oval, morning glory, cardinal stained glass inserts that include your house numbers.

The most secure doors are often more break-in resistant than your primary door. For example, some decorative ones use elegant wrought iron or aluminum channels, bank vault-like deadbolt pins, non-reversible screws, heavy-duty keyed locks and non-removable-pin hinges. You can even select stainless steel screening that is extremely difficult to break through. Nearly every town has one or two small local companies that produce screen/storm doors. To get the best warranties, some as long as a lifetime, it is often best to select one of the major national manufacturers' doors.

Most home center stores and building supply outlets carry both the cheaper and high-quality national brands. If you are really concerned about the appearance of your house, the high-quality "Select" product line allows you mix and match options to create your own door (up to 500 different styles) and take it home that day.

If you are planning to do the installation yourself to save some money, definitely spend a little more on the screen/storm door for better quality. There is nothing more difficult and frustrating than to try to install a cheap flimsy screen/storm door. It will flex and buckle as you try to install it, often damaging it before your kids even get their crack at breaking it.

Your primary selection decision should be the style of screen/storm door that will look best on your home and provide the ventilation you seek. These include full-view, high or low-view, self-storing, and triple-track, plus many combinations of these. In some self-storing doors, like Store-In-Door, the glass panels can be moved and hidden inside the lower solid door section.

Triple-track doors are probably the most convenient for year-round energy efficiency. The opening in the door has three separate tracks - one for each of two half-height glass panels and a third one for the screen panel. You can position all three panels independently in any location for maximum ventilation flexibility.

For example, if you have a dog or cat, you can position the screen on the outdoor side of the glass panels for scratch protection. For the most effective and secure summer ventilation, adjust the two glass panels to leave small gaps at the top and bottom of the door. This creates a natural air flow circulation of cool air in the bottom and warm air out the top.

Most residential screen/storm doors are made of hollow aluminum or plastic skins or solid wood. The hollow ones with foam insulation core are most efficient and the foam supports the outer skins. This also increases rigidity which is important for the weatherstripping to form long-lasting airtight seals. The Magna-Core product line also uses durable, refrigerator-type magnetic seals.

You can also select a screen/storm door with a particleboard or wood core under the skins. These are stronger and more secure than foam-filled doors. Although the insulation value is lower, they will still save energy due to dead air space they create.

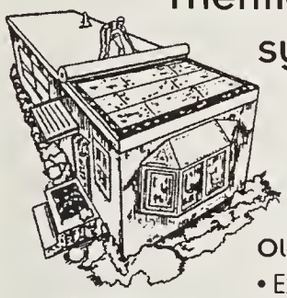
Write for (or instantly download - www.dulley.com) Utility Bills Update No. 549 - buyer's guide of 10 high-quality, secure screen/storm doors, styles, construction, core/insulation, colors and features. Please include $3.00 and a business-size SASE. Send to James Dulley, c/o Carolina Country, P.O. Box 54987, Cincinnati, OH 45254 .

© 2000 by James Dulley, a syndicated columnist for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

The Insulated Mobile Home Roofing System

As Seen On TV

Thermal Tech, the affordable roof system that lowers power bills in winter and summer



Decide for Yourself

Old Metal Roof	vs.	New Thermal Tech
• Expensive heat escapes thru the roof		• Thick insulation retains heat in your home
• Condensation forms in the attic		• No attic condensation
• Attic condensation freezes there and in walls		• No condensation forms
• Furnace or heaters usually run all day and night		• Heat source runs only as needed
• Leaks let water ruin ceiling, walls and floors		• No leaks
• Seal, paint, repair every year		• Maintenance-free and guaranteed lifetime warranty
• Rumbles in winter wind		• Quiet in the worst storms
• Deteriorates annually		• Adds to the value of your home

$100 Rebate

Call today for a FREE Roof Inspection and Estimate

THERMAL TECH ROOFING

1-800-849-5715

FLEX-A-BED

ELECTRICALLY ADJUSTABLE BEDS

- WAKE UP FEELING REFRESHED
- INVIGORATING MASSAGE
- NO MORE SLEEPING IN A RECLINER

FACTORY DIRECT

- RELIEVES DISCOMFORT OF ARTHRITIS, ACID REFLUX, BREATHING DISORDERS, SWOLLEN LEGS & FEET

AVAILABLE IN ALL SIZES

NO SALESMAN WILL CALL

Visit our website at: www.flexabed.com

FREE VIDEO & BROCHURE

Name

Address

City State Zip

FLEX-A-BED

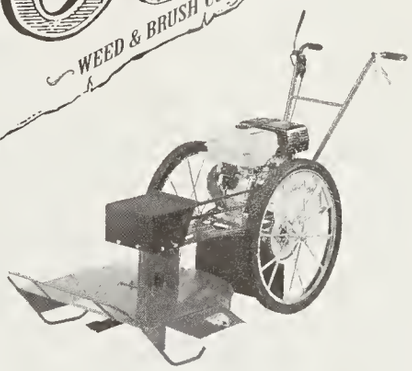
P.O. Box 568, Lafayette, GA 30728

FOR FASTER SERVICE CALL TOLL FREE

1-800-787-1337

The Original

WEED & BRUSH CUTTING DYNAMO



You've Gotta See 'Em To Believe 'Em.

Our amazing machines cut:
- Weeds & grass up to 6' tall
- Saplings up to 1 1/4" thick
- Up to 3/4 acre an hour

Call 1-888-988-7001

(toll-free) P-3

Get our FREE video and catalog to see our weed and brush cutters in action. Call Now!

Bachtold Bros.™

Or, fill in this convenient coupon and mail it to:
Bachtold Bros., 509 West First Street, Gibson City, IL 60936-0485
Thanks!

Name: P-3

Address:

City:

State: Zip

Hank's Gardening Guide

By Hank Smith

As gardeners approach the season of intensified efforts toward preparing gardens for summer and fall production, it's important to keep in mind year-around care and maintenance. Once they have completed the blooming season, prune spring-flowering shrubs. Severe pruning is needed on those that have outgrown allotted space, such as the spireas, forsythias, flowering quinces and azaleas. Check for fire blight on apple and pear trees, as well as photinia, hawthorn and crabapple. There are resistant varieties of apples and pears available at nurseries. Remove all twigs that have the scorched-by-fire appearance. After each cut, sterilize pruning shears with chlorine solution or rubbing alcohol to prevent spreading disease. Wait until new growth appears before pruning freeze-damaged wood. Often, wood toward the base of the plant is still alive. If so, prune back to healthy wood. Pay particular attention to watering, fertilizing and controlling insects and diseases of winter-damaged plants. Plant summer bulbs such as dahlias, gladioli, tuberoses, crinums and caladiums.

April Aids

1. Dig and transplant small seedlings of nandinas that have grown up under established plants. If established plants have grown tall and scraggly, cut away older, thicker stems at ground level.

2. Some native plants are becoming scarce. Seek out spots in the yard where such can be utilized in a woodland setting and allowed to "grow wild."

3. Even shady spots can contribute summer color from annuals. The following endure somewhat heavy shade: petunia, balsam, calliopsis, godetia, lobelia, cockscomb, flowering tobacco, periwinkle and impatiens.

4. Vegetables can be used as part of the flower garden. For example, carrots to edge a flowerbed (the foliage gives a fern-like edging); strawberries as a low-edging plant or groundcover; cabbages backed with zinnias, with petunias in front.

5. Keep a record of flowers and vegetables grown this season. Note flowers in bloom each week; earliest period vegetables are ready for harvest; plants that survive adverse weather conditions; favorite blooms and vegetables. Such a record will be helpful in planning next year's garden.

6. Most shrubs respond well to a general feeding of 1/4- to 1/2-pound balanced plant food per square yard of area covered by plant. Do not permit fertilizer to touch stems or leaves. Distribute fertilizer evenly. If there is heavy mulch, or soil is badly packed, cultivate well. Water fertilizer into soil.

7. A temporary background or screen can be achieved by planting tithonia or Mexican sunflower, kichia, Joseph's coat and castor bean. Remove blooms of castor bean to prevent seed formation. Seeds are poisonous.

8. Good bedding plants for bright sunny spots: portulaca, zinnia, marigold, salvia and celosia.

9. Five tablespoons of bleach in a gallon of water, shaken well, will help prolong the life of cut flowers. Keep the vase full of solution.

10. Apply lawn-weed prevention to keep crabgrass seeds from sprouting and becoming summer weeds.

11. If you planted a cover crop in the vegetable garden, now's the time to till or spade it under.

Feeding trees

Deep feeding gives best results. Surface feeding often is consumed by grasses and groundcovers, and often brings tree roots to soil surface where they are damaged by summer's heat and droughts. Fertilize trees by making a series of 1-1/2-inch diameter holes 8-10 inches deep. Begin holes 3-4 feet from trunk; extend holes pattern just beyond spread of branches. Use 1-1/2 pounds complete fertilizer per year of tree age.

Plant perennials

Within the next few weeks, start perennial plants from seed. Young plants will have time to gain growth in order to go through next winter. This will result in more and better blooms next year. Sow seed in shallow boxes of flats containing a mixture of 1/3 loam, 1/3 damp peat moss and 1/3 clean sand. Keep damp. When the first pair of true leaves is well developed, transplant to individual pots or wider spacing in flats. Plants should be large enough to plant in permanent flowerbed by September.

Large shrub = small tree

If you have a problem with large, overgrown shrubs at the corners of a building, they can be converted to small trees. Large specimens of hollies, cherry laurel, crape myrtle, ligustrums and privets, can be pruned and trained to a single- or multiple-trunk small-scale tree. With selective pruning, a distinctive plant can be created. Remove all growth except those stems selected to become "trunks." Such plants often add much interest to the landscape.

Vegetables

Set out transplants of cole crops such as cabbage, broccoli and cauliflower. Sow seeds of carrots, radishes, spinach, leaf lettuce and turnips. Light mulch will help to conserve moisture during dry periods. Mulches also discourage the germination of weed seed.

Groundcover care

Mow beds of browned mondo grass and liriope. Set mower at highest setting, or use a nylon-string trimmer. Accomplish this before new foliage begins growth. Otherwise, there will be brown tips on each leaf in the coming year. Also divide and replant mature clumps of hostas. Plants will grow rapidly to fill out the bed. In a short time, it will not be evident they were divided.

Blossom end rot of tomatoes

When setting plants, add three or four tablespoons of lime to the planting hole. Mix well with soil. A 3- or 4-inch mulch should be applied before mid-May. This reduces fluctuations in ground moisture. Blossom end rot is more evident when plants are growing under stress. Water at base during dry periods.

Head start for bulbs

Plastic sandwich bags serve as temporary containers for starting bulbs of elephant ear, canna and tuberous begonia. Make several slits in the base of the bag to assure drainage. Using rich humus or garden soil, plant bulbs and tubers about 2 inches deep. Place bags in a shallow box, crowded so bags support each other upright. After bulbs sprout, transplant outdoors. Such an easy start gives bulbs a three- to four-week head start in the summer garden.

Salad days

These are the days to look ahead to planting a salad garden for summer treats. Vegetables such as lettuce, spinach, onions, radishes, sugar snap peas, broccoli, parsley and carrots are prime ingredients for super salads.

Cutworm control

Active at night, cutworms attack tender newly-set plants and seedlings. Easier than chemical control is the creating of a barrier the worms cannot cross over. Remove the bottoms of paper cups. Place one like a collar around each tender plant. Bury the bottom of the cup at least an inch into the ground. Cutworms will not attempt to climb the cup.

Carolina Country classified ads cost $2 per word, prepaid. Minimum ad $20. Maximum 75 words. Same ad on Web site is $20 per month. Send ad and payment to Classifieds, Carolina Country, P.O. Box 27306, Raleigh, NC 27611.

CLASSIFIEDS

Business Opportunities

WATKINS PRODUCTS since 1868. Rated top 10 home-based businesses. Start under $49. Free information, product catalog. Independent Directors. 1-888-556-7235.

NEW! GROW EXPENSIVE PLANTS, 2,000% profit, Free Information. Growbiz, Box 306-NC4, Seminary, MS 39479 – rphillips@megagate.com.

EASY LEGITIMATE home-based jobs. Great Pay! 1-800-377-6000 x 8825. www.Work-at-home-jobs.com.

ALFALFA & ALFALFA/TIMOTHY HAY cubes. 3/4" hay cubes, bright green color. Camden, NC. Dealerships available. Visit website at www.alfabites.com. (252) 331-1436.

INTERNATIONAL NUTRITION, weight-loss & skincare company needs help with sales and recruiting $500 - $5,000 PT/FT. 1-704-585-9649.

Help Wanted

EASY WORK AT HOME! Great Pay! Nation's Only legitimate jobs! 1-800-377-6000 x 8820. www.Work-at-home-jobs.com.

Wanted

ARE YOU RECEIVING MORTGAGE Payments? Cash for your Note. Free quotations. 800-269-9510.

NC MADE HORSE DRAWN BUGGY. Pre -1930's. (336) 699-2060.

Vacation Rental

2BR. MOUNTAIN CABIN on scenic New River in Ashe County. Ideal location for fishing, hunting, canoeing, hiking, etc. (336) 982-3281.

OCEANFRONT 3 BEDROOM cottage, Hatteras, NC For brochure call (336) 766-5055.

For Sale

USED PORTABLE SAWMILLS! Buy/Sell. Call Sawmill Exchange 1-800-459-2148, (205) 661-9821, http://www.sawmillexchange.com.

OLD TIMEY APPLE TREES. Limbertwigs, Horse, Red June, etc. 1404 Camp Dogwood Road, Pinnacle, NC 27043. (336) 351-5326 before 8 p.m.

CARS FROM $500! Police impounds & repossessions. Computers, boats, televisions, antiques & more. For listings 1-800-319-3323 x 2798.

BUY FORECLOSED HOMES! 1-5 bdrm. Local bank repos and foreclosures. VA, HUD, FHA, etc. Financing possible. For local listings Call! 1-800-319-3323 x1072.

1989 YAMAHA WAVERUNNER - $1300; 1991 Seadoo - $2900; low hours. (336) 461-5873.

CHURCH PEWS, financing available; pew cushions, robes, stained glass, etc. Steeples starting at $899. Gabriel Church Services – 1-800-NEW PEWS – www.newpews.com.

Work Clothes

GOOD, CLEAN RENTAL-TYPE WORK clothes. 6 pants & 6 shirts to match $29.95. Lined Work Jackets $9.95. Send sizes with check or money order plus $5.00 S&H to: Walt's Wholesale, PO Box 208-E, Darlington, SC 29532 or MC/Visa orders 1-800-233-1853.

Insurance

AFFORDABLE HEALTH INSURANCE. $20 doctor visits, $10 drug card. Medicare supplements, also. 1-800-470-4415.

HEALTH INSURANCE - $10-up Doctor's Co-pay. $10-up Prescription Co-pay. 1-800-252-6110. www.InsuranceCarolinas.com.

Financial

HOMEOWNERS – Financial help for debt consolidation, refinancing, cash, foreclosure, bankruptcy, etc. Serious inquiries only please! Call "Janet" at 1-800-538-5388 (ID#128097).

SMALL BUSINESS - Government loans available nationwide! Satisfaction guaranteed! Call: 1-800-226-3601, ext. BF8830 – www.Nationalinfocorp.com.

RECEIVING PAYMENTS on property sold?? We pay cash for real estate notes, mortgages, annuities, structured settlements, land contracts... Nationwide... Highest Prices Paid!!! Quick Closing!!! Investor Mortgage Service, Call Steve – 1-800-254-3373.

Gold Maps

NC GOLD MAPS. How to pan. Where to look. Deposits in 34 counties. Fun! Enjoy! Go for it! 1-321-783-4595. WWW.GOLDMAPS.COM

Miscellaneous

PUT YOUR OLD HOME MOVIES or slides on videotape. Call for details 1-888-609-9778.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN ELK roamed NC mountains years ago. Now you can have your own herd of these magnificent and profitable animals. Call or write for a free brochure. Beaverhorn Elk Ranch, 377 Beaverhorn Ranch Road, Vilas, NC 28692. Fax (828) 297-5956, Phone (828) 297-1193. E-mail – ELK4sale@aol.com.

PLAY GOSPEL SONGS BY EAR! 10 lessons $8.95. "Learn Gospel Music." Chording, runs, fills - $8.95. Both $16. Davidsons, 6727C Metcalf, Shawnee Mission, Kansas 66204.

The N. C. Association of Electric Cooperatives and its member cooperatives do not necessarily endorse the services and products advertised. Readers are advised to understand fully any agreement or purchase they make.

Carolina Country *classifieds*

$2 per word ($20 minimum per ad), prepaid. Maximum 75 words. Limit two ads per month per advertiser. Published on a space-available basis. Deadline: 25th of the month, 5 weeks before publication. For example, deadline for Jun is April 25. Orders received after deadline will be published the following issue. For information: Jenny Lloyd, (919) 875-3091. Send payment and message to

Carolina Country Classifieds
P.O. Box 27306
Raleigh, NC 27611

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Joyner's Corner Answers

Unscramblin'
a keg of rum

Digit Detection
BETHEL = 321024

Percy P. Cassidy Poles Apart
Get down in the mouth

Math Words
CANOE/N=OCEAN
704 16/4 = 17604

CAROLINA KITCHEN

Pleasing Potato Pizza

3 large potatoes, peeled and cubed
1 tube (10 ounces) refrigerated pizza crust
1/4 cup milk
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 pound sliced bacon, diced
1 large onion, chopped
1/2 cup chopped sweet red pepper
1-1/2 cups (6 ounces packaged) shredded cheddar cheese
1-1/2 cups (6 ounces packaged) shredded mozzarella cheese
Sour cream, optional

Place potatoes in a saucepan and cover with water. Bring to a boil; cook for 20-25 minutes or until very tender. Meanwhile, unroll the pizza crust onto an ungreased 14-inch pizza pan; flatten dough and build up edges slightly. Prick dough several times with a fork. Bake at 350 degrees for 15 minutes or until lightly browned. Cool on wire rack. Drain potatoes and transfer to a mixing bowl. Mash with milk and salt until smooth. Spread over crust. In a skillet, partially cook the bacon. Add onion and red pepper; cook until bacon is crisp and vegetables are tender. Drain well; sprinkle over potatoes. Top with cheeses. Bake at 375 degrees for 20 minutes or until cheese is melted. Serve with sour cream if desired. Yield: 8 slices.

Published with permission from Taste of Home magazine. For a sample copy, send $2 to Taste of Home, Suite 4159, P.O. Box 990, Greendale, WI 53129-0990. Or visit www.reimanpub.com.

For more Carolina Country recipes, visit Carolina Kitchen online: www.carolinacountry.com.

SEND A FRIEND TO A FRIEND

Carolina Country gift subscriptions

Thanks to your electric cooperative, Carolina Country magazine comes to your house every month like a dependable, good friend.

You can send the same visitor to your friends and relatives.
$8 for 12 issues.
$16 for 24 issues

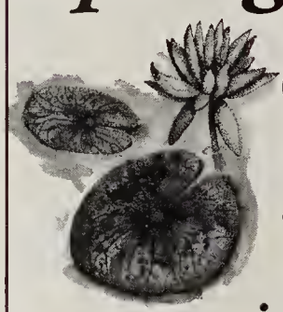
Send us your gift list and payment, and we'll send a greeting card with your name on it to each person on your list.

Send this coupon and payment to
Carolina Country Subscriptions
PO Box 27306
Raleigh, NC 27611

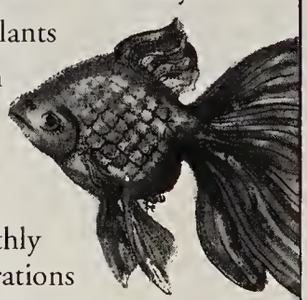
Please send a gift subscription for
_____1 year ($8) _____2 years ($16) to

Name_____
Mailing Address_____
City_____State_____Zip_____
Send greetings from_____
_____

Springdale Water Gardens

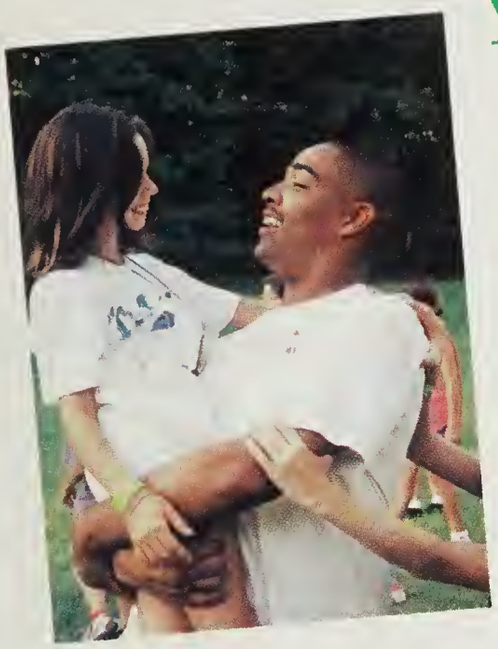


- Rubber pond liners
- Patio ponds
- Water lilies
- Hardy Lotus
- Bog plants
- Goldfish and Koi
- Pumps, filters
- Monthly demonstrations

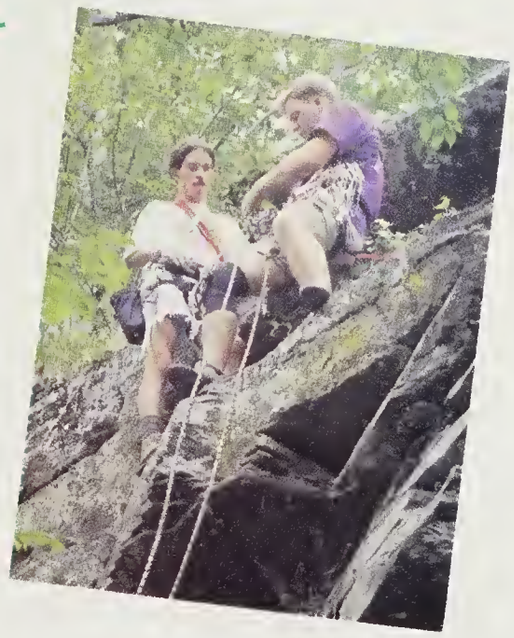


- Knowledgeable, friendly staff

(800) 420-5459
Free catalog
Old Quarry Lane • PO Box 546
Greenville VA 24440
Come Visit!



You Don't Have To Be A 4-H Member To Love 4-H Camps!



Junior Camps

A traditional camping experience for boys and girls ages 8-12. Campers enjoy swimming, crafts, games, and campfires. This is a great way to begin to discover 4-H camp.

Specialty Camps

We offer a variety of specialty camps. You can enjoy camps in the mountains or on the coast and everywhere in between.

Fur, Fish & Game
Shooting Sports
"Land of the Sky" Running
Marine Science and Sailing
Junior Camp

Cloverbud Camps

Is your young one ready for camp? Send them to one of our Cloverbud camps. This camp gives them a short version of a junior camp week for the smallest "clovers." Campers ages 6-8 are welcome to join the fun.

Come Camp With Us!

Enroll Now!

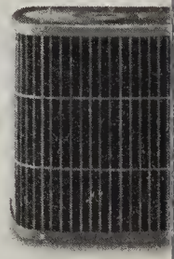
For a complete listing of our camps
and registration, write,
NC 4-H Youth Development
NCSU Box 7606
Raleigh, NC 27695-7606
or call 919-515-3244

http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/fourh/4H_Camps/index.html
e-mail: terry_patterson@ncsu.edu

Do Today's Electric Heat Pumps *Heat* Better Or *Cool* Better?

Today's high-efficiency electric heat pumps aren't just warmer than ever, they also cool your home to the max and cost less to buy and install. So call your cooperative today. When you learn all the reasons electric heat pumps are your most economical heating and cooling choice, it'll give you a nice, warm feeling inside.

Cooperative Member
Mrs. Carolyn Slack
"No hot spots in summer, no cold spots in winter — just a nice, even temperature all year long."



#BXNGZPW**********3-DIGIT 275
#46638000022964 35# 44
N. CAROLINA OLLECTION
WILSON LIBRARY
CLUB 3930 UNC-CH
CHAPEL HILL, NC 27599-0001

North Carolina's electric cooperatives

Energy To Get Things Done℠

Serving 1.6 million consumers in 93 North Carolina counties